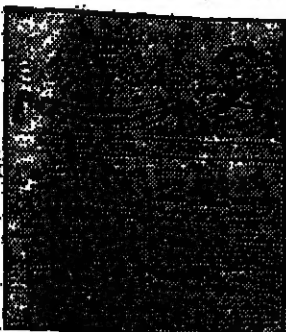


No 62,024

THE TIMES
1785-1985

On Wednesday, January 2, The Times Bicentenary celebrations begin. Don't miss:



In the beginning
A four-page facsimile of the first issue



On this day
The start of a new feature reproducing a daily news report from the past 200 years

The voice within
Philip Howard describes some of the secrets discovered during the making of Thames Television programme on The Times

Next week: Colourful view



On Monday, January 7, a special magazine commemorating the Bicentenary will be published free with The Times

Wednesday

Talent show?
The Golden Age of Anglo-Saxon Art at the British Museum - or was it so golden?

Vive la difference
Why we should never be surprised to see men in skirts and women in trousers

Red faces
Digby Anderson on Karl Marx and the careers officer

Sport for all
Complete coverage of Bank Holiday football, rugby and racing, plus John Woodcock at the third Test

Portfolio

The Times Saturday Portfolio prize of £2,000 was shared by two winners yesterday, Mr J. W. P. Gummer, of Frinton, Essex, and Mr J. G. Verity of St Albans, Herts, each received £1,000. There is a further £2,000 to be won today. Prizes list, page 16; rules and how to play, information service, back page.

Murray and Chapple made life peers

By Philip Webster, Political Reporter

Mr Frank Chapple, one of the most controversial personalities in the trade union movement since the late 1960s, and Mr Len Murray, former general secretary of the TUC, are made life peers in the new year honours list published today.

Mr Chapple, a former Communist, who served as general secretary of the Electrical, Electronic, Telecommunications and Plumbing Union for 17 years, fought a running battle with the left throughout his career during which he sat on the general council of the TUC for 12 years, as chairman in 1982-83, and on the national executive of the Labour Party for six years.

Mr Murray stood down as general secretary at the annual congress of the TUC in September having held the post since 1973, when he took over from Victor (later Lord) Feather.

They are among four life peers named in today's list. The others are Dame Mary Warnock, senior research fellow at St Hugh's College, Oxford, chairman of the recent committee of inquiry into human fertilization, and Mr Nigel Vinson, an industrialist, who is chairman of the Development Commission, which encourages the growth of rural industries.

Mr Edward du Cann, chairman of the Conservative backbench 1922 Committee throughout Mrs Thatcher's leadership until his unexpected defeat last month, becomes a KBE. Three other Conservative members are knighted, Mr Paul Dean, MP for Woodspring, Mr Fergus Montgomery, MP for Ayrincham and Sale and a former parliamentary private secretary to Mrs Thatcher when in Opposition and Mr Peter Tapsell, MP for Lindsey East, one of the most regular backbench critics of the Government's economic policy.

Two senior Conservatives, Sir Frederic Bennett, MP for Torbay, and Sir Bernard Braine, MP for Castle Point, and Lady Seear, leader of the Liberal

peers, are made Privy Counsellors.

In line with recent practice neither Mr Neil Kinnock nor Dr David Owen made recommendations for awards, five names put forward by Mr David Steel are honoured.

The sporting honours include OBEs for Keith Fletcher, the former England cricket captain and captain of Essex since 1974, Roger Self, coach to the British Olympic hockey team in Los Angeles, and Alex Ferguson, manager of Aberdeen football club.

Kenny Dalglish, who has won 84 soccer caps for Scotland and scored more than 100 goals for both Celtic and Liverpool, and

Full list, pages 4, 5

Tessa Sanderson, the javelin thrower, who won the Olympic gold medal both become MBEs.

The industrial awards include knighthoods for Mr Gordon Brunton, managing director and chief executive of the International Thomson Organisation, Mr Kenneth Durham, chairman of Unilever, Mr Robert Haslam, chairman of the British Steel Corporation, Mr Christopher Hogg, chairman of Courtalds and Mr Peter Reynolds, chairman of Ranks Hovis McDougall.

There is an OBE for Mr Ralph Ford, North Yorkshire's chief fire officer, whose decision to collapse the roof of the south transept of York Minster during the fire there was regarded as contributing to saving it.

Four miners receive British Empire Medals, two of them from working pits.

One of the miners, Mr Ron Book, aged 52, of Redwood Drive, Maltby, South Yorkshire, said he was staggered when he was informed that he was to receive the British Empire Medal. "Normally it is your employer who puts you forward for this. But I have been on strike 10 months which makes it awkward to find out how, why and when."



Mr Murray: Stood down in September.



Mr Chapple: Battle with the left.

Thatcher links spending curbs to tax cuts

By Anthony Bevins, Political Correspondent

The Government's determination to stick to the strictest control of public spending and borrowing to cut the burden of income tax was underlined by the Prime Minister last night.

In a new year message to Conservative Party workers, Mrs Margaret Thatcher said that the Government should not dig its hands too deep into people's pay packets.

She said in the party paper, *Newsline*: "If we are to reduce the burden of income tax, and I am determined that we shall, then we must show equal determination in our control of public spending."

Mrs Thatcher also said: "In 1985, when for so many people

the main concern will be employment, let all of us accept our responsibilities to help create more jobs."

She said that the Government would continue to control public spending and continue to boost training and help the long-term unemployed with the community enterprise programme.

But she also issued a warning that management and workers together had responsibility to provide the quality of goods and services that customers demanded, at a price they could afford, and that pay rises had to be geared to productivity "so that we price into, and not out of, markets." Jobs hope, page 2

Back to work drive by NCB

By Barrie Clement, Labour Reporter

The National Coal Board today started in earnest a new year campaign to urge miners to give up their 10-month stoppage.

Full-page advertisements were taken in the popular press tempting strikers back to work with the prospect of up to £1,000 tax-free earnings in the first month.

Under the heading, "Here's something for every miner to think about in the new year", the board presents its last offer as the best-ever to industrial workers. It also reminds them that they have not had an opportunity to vote on it.

"It is time for each miner to make up his own mind", the advertisements say. "Pitman should return to work to protect their jobs and ensure a future for the industry, they add."

Strikers are asked to contact their managers for information about transport to the pits when they start opening.

Pitmen are reminded that the board is prepared to backdate the 5.2 per cent pay rise rejected by miners' leaders last spring. The board repeats that there will be no compulsory redundancy and that severance pay for those who choose to leave the industry is "the highest on offer" in British industry. The offer was "fair and reasonable."

The advertisement ends by saying: "Tomorrow it will be the new year, let's make it a good one together."

About 100 out of 1,700 strikers at Kellingley colliery, Yorkshire's biggest pit, have replied to a letter from their pit delegate asking them whether they would vote to support the strike if they had a ballot.

Mr Howard Wadsworth, the union official, said that the response may mean that the members are "very happy" with the strike. Management is thought unlikely to attach much significance to the initiative because of the low response to the letters. At present 128 pitmen are working at the colliery.



Princess Anne and the Princess of Wales talking with the Rt Rev. Marguerite Wood, Bishop of Norwich, after attending morning service with the Royal Family at St Paul's Cathedral. (Continued on page 10)

Euphoric Gandhi drops hint of solution in Punjab

From Michael Hamlyn, Delhi

Revering in his election triumph yesterday, Mr Rajiv Gandhi, the Indian Prime Minister, addressed an adoring throng from a saffron green and white dais close to his mother's home in the heart of New Delhi. Wearing a quilted jacket against the December chill, though it may well also have concealed the bulk of a bullet-proof jacket, Mr Gandhi did not have a great deal to promise his audience, though in his euphoria he allowed himself to say that "we can show to the world that our country is second to none in progress and prosperity."

He has, however, indicated that his first priority is the reconstruction of his Council of Ministers. Six ministers lost their seats in the Andhra Pradesh Debacle, including Mr P Shiv Shankar, the Shipping Minister who fought Mrs Gandhi's old seat in Madras.

It is thought possible that Mr Gandhi will be quite rigorous in cutting away a lot of the dead wood that had been allowed to accumulate.

He has also said his primary task is to settle the Punjab dispute, Sikh agitation for territorial and religious concessions, led to the terrorist campaign which eventually cost Mrs Gandhi her life.

He indicated that he has a solution in mind. "We have some plan to find a solution, but it would not be prudent for

me to announce it now," he said.

The real scale of Mr Gandhi's victory became apparent over the weekend. His astounding landslide totally wiped out the opposition parties in the major states of Madhya Pradesh and Rajasthan, as well as the more minor ones of Himachal Pradesh, Haryana and the union territory of Delhi.

STATE OF THE PARTIES	
Seats held by the parties with six or more seats	395
Congress (I)	268
Telegu Desam	28
Communist Party of India (Marxist)	22
All India Anna Dravida Munnetra Kazhagam	12
Janata	10
Communist Party of India Congress (Socialist)	4
National Conference (Farooq)	3
Bahujan Samaj Party	2
Shramik Janata Party	1
Congress (J)	1
Dravida Munnetra Kazhagam	1
Other Parties, Independents	15

In the biggest state, Uttar Pradesh, his Congress (I) Party won 82 of the 84 seats contested. In Orissa the opposition only managed one seat.

With all but six results declared Congress had won 78 per cent of the seats, a feat unparalleled in India since independence. The best his grandfather, Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru, could do was 75 per cent of the seats in 1957. His mother only ever managed two-thirds.

It was not all smooth sailing. The result in Andhra Pradesh, where Congress won only six seats (it won 41 in 1980) showed that the people of the state had not forgiven the central Government for dismissal of Mr N. T. Rama Rao, the ageing film-star Chief Minister. Even more unforgiving were the people of the Kashmir Valley, where all three seats went to supporters of Mr Farooq Abdullah, dismissed by Mrs Gandhi's governor earlier in the year. Begum Akbar Jehan Abdullah, Mr Abdullah's mother, won one of them.

Congress failed to make any dent in the Communist-ruled state of Tripura, which duly returned two Communist Party of India (Marxist) members, though with reduced majorities. The Communists lost ground in West Bengal, yielding 12 seats to Congress, though retaining far the largest party.

Mr Gandhi's victory was particularly sweet in his own constituency of Amethi in Uttar Pradesh, where he had been threatened by his estranged sister-in-law, Mrs Meenaka Gandhi.

He finished more than 300,000 votes ahead of her 35,000. Mrs Meenaka Gandhi's party has been one of the major casualties of the election, failing to get a single member returned to Parliament.

Historic victory, page 5
Leading articles, page 13

Britain agrees to hold North Sea oil prices

Britain has made an informal agreement with the Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries that it will make no change to its North Sea oil pricing policy for at least a month to give the new pricing agreement, hammered out by Opec, over the weekend in Geneva a chance to work.

Opec hopes that its Geneva agreement, which leaves market prices unchanged at \$29 a barrel but narrows the gap between cheaper heavier crudes and expensive light crudes, will stabilize the oil market.

Opec accord, page 15



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Sri Lankan army's reign of terror holds Tamils in thrall

From Trevor Fishlock, Jaffna

Sri Lankan forces are conducting a harsh and remorseless campaign of intimidation among the island's Tamil minority. By means of random murder, indiscriminate shooting, beatings, torture and plunder, ill-disciplined and trigger-happy soldiers keep the Tamils in the north in a state of constant fear.

With the vanishing of reason the fight against Tamil separatist terrorists now has the shrill tones of naked ethnic struggle. The predominantly Sinhalese Army seems to have a free hand as it cracks down on the civilian population in the overwhelmingly Tamil Northern Province.

Military restrictions, and the army's savage response to Tamil terrorism, have almost shut down the economy of this region. At least 25,000 fishermen are prohibited from fishing, the sea having been declared out of bounds, and there is growing anxiety in

fishing communities, and among civic leaders, that unless food is brought into areas already chronically short of supplies, people will begin to starve.

Women have been selling their necklaces and bangles to buy food, but few dealers now have any money left to buy their jewelry, even at low prices.

Many thousands of people, mostly women and children, have fled to India and to Europe. Thousands of youths have been rounded up and held in Army camps. Their parents do not know where they are; they have become Sri Lanka's disappeared ones. There is strong evidence of beating, torture and murder of young men in Army custody.

Rigid curfew and a plethora of complex regulations and permits have reduced transport to overworked skeleton services. People find it hard to get to work and to transport food and

raw materials. The army has its grip on the regular commerce. Factories are closing, trade in most shops has dwindled away. It is becoming impossible to freight goods to and from Colombo by road.

People are dying because they cannot be taken to hospital in the 6pm to 5am curfew. Jaffna Hospital is running out of vital drugs, oxygen and anaesthetics.

Meanwhile thousands of displaced people, driven from their homes in army "combing out" operations, are in refugee camps.

There is no longer any proper law enforcement. There are no policemen to be seen on the streets of Jaffna, chief city of the north. They dare not go out on patrol. They stay in their sandbagged police posts. Troops move only in large armoured convoys. The army's rampages, massacres and brutality have swung even moderate Tamil opinion against the authorities. The army and police are despised.



Father Michael Samy, Vicar-General of Jaffna, said: "This is a reign of terror."

The Bishop of Jaffna said: "People live in fright and despair. They feel helpless. There is no equality or democracy left here any more."

Tamils are being treated as second class citizens."

A young clerk, typical of a number of people interviewed, said: "Everyone here is afraid. You know that the army has killed people for no reason and has shot them down on the streets. Those who can afford it are getting out of Sri Lanka. If I had the money I would go too. Those who will be left will be the old, the poor and the very young."

The north is now in a state of chaos and high nervous tension. The civil power's hold on the situation is not strong. Hundreds of guerrillas, estimates range from 1,000 to 5,000 or more, are committed to fighting for Eelam, a separate Tamil state in the north and east. Split into several main factions, they run a terror campaign against the authorities, mining roads, blowing up police stations, robbing banks, murdering and kidnapping policemen.

The army hits back with massive round-ups and interrogation of youths. Troops have been looting and burning homes. Many women have complained of being robbed of jewellery. A civil servant said: "To the army every Tamil is now a terrorist."

It is part of the Sri Lankan tragedy that the Government has come to define the long-simmering Tamil question as simply one of terrorist eradication. Sinhalese sympathy to Tamil, rooted in ancient fears of conquest, has been stirred up. With emotions running high the conflict has its strong element of propaganda and disinformation.

The Government's case is that it is acting firmly against a terrorist threat to the country's integrity.

But the Tamils, who form a fifth of the 15 million population, believe that the army is being used to subjugate them, to settle historic scores.

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Prime Minister makes a resolution to break Scargill's power in NUM

By Anthony Beville, Political Reporter

The Prime Minister has resolved to break Mr Arthur Scargill's power over the National Union of Mineworkers. In a new year interview for the British Forces network, she says: "One thing that is going to come out of the miners' strike is a tremendous leadership on the part of the many moderates - the working miner."

"When this strike is over, we have to get together with the moderate responsible leaders and see if we can try to prevent this thing from ever happening again."

Mrs Thatcher says that the dispute had dominated her year, and the picket line violence had disturbed her more than anything else.

"I never expected to see some of the scenes of violence which we have outside collieries with members of a union throwing stones and bolts and other things at other members of the same union, who only wanted to go to work. We never thought to see that in Britain, it is totally alien to the British character."

The Prime Minister did not mention Mr Scargill by name during the interview, but senior Cabinet colleagues showed little reluctance to identify the Government's target for the new year.

Walker, Secretary of State for Energy, returned to the attack for the second day in succession when he said that Mr Scargill had told a lie.

Interviewed on BBC radio's *World This Weekend*, Mr Biffen said that Mr Scargill had boasted that he had not budged an inch during the dispute, and he therefore failed to see how constructive talks could take place.

He said: "This is an arrogance on the part of the Scargill element in the NUM: they assume that the Government or the coal board or anyone else will come running to them, and that's against the background that something like one third of the members of the National Union of Mineworkers are coal miners at work."

"It's against the background that a very large number of trade unionists in this country are shifting stocks of coal and are arranging for that coal to be burnt and for oil to be burnt at power stations and for coal to be imported from overseas."

"That's the background. It's not the background against which we are now going to go along, cap in hand to Mr Scargill."

Mr Walker said in his Worcester constituency: "Yesterday, confronted on television with the total exposure of his repeated false predictions on coal stocks and power cuts, Mr Scargill endeavoured to evade the subject by telling a total lie."

"He said that having predicted the strike would end in the spring, I had previously predicted the strike would end in September and then at Christmas. Yet again Mr Scargill has uttered words without a fragment of truth in them."

"I have never privately or publicly made a prediction when the strike would end."

Mr Walker said that the strike was without industrial justification, that the miners had been manipulated out of their right to ballot, that union funds had been used to finance mob picketing, that the strike leaders had failed to deplore violence and intimidation and that they had sought finance in the Soviet Union and in Libya.

"It has always been impossible to predict how long such men and such methods could use the miners' traditional loyalty to their union and their community to achieve their purposes and how long the fear and violence would prevail."

"Let every miner consider in the quietness of his home the National Coal Board's offer, the best offer since nationalization, and ask himself whether the Scargill strike should be allowed to continue to damage his union, his industry and his future."

Mr Walker predicted on Saturday that the present level of coal production would ensure that there would be no power cuts for the whole of 1985.

Thatcher's new year jobs hope

By our Political Correspondent

Full employment is the Prime Minister's greatest hope for the future and one of her wishes for the new year is that more jobs should be found for the young unemployed.

Mrs Margaret Thatcher says in the Servicemen's new year interview: "There are now a million more in the population of working age than there were six years ago."

"That means you have to work very hard to stand still on unemployment. Now last year we created about a quarter of a million jobs. Not enough. It is encouraging, but not enough."

"And so you ask me what is my greatest hope for the coming years: it is that we can increase the growth but increase it in such a way that we employ our people."

However, the "new technological surge" meant that the country's needs could be met with fewer people and that meant that more people would be employed in the service industries.

"You say we make a living by taking one another's laundry;

these days it is not so simple as that," Mrs Thatcher added. She said: "Leisure, pleasure, entertainment, culture, travel, tour-

In his new year message yesterday, Mr David Steel, leader of the Liberals, said that Mrs Thatcher's new year resolution should be to throw away the monetarist rulebook and start investing in Britain's future."

"The plight of those who were out of work 12 months ago and who still have not found jobs should be in our minds at this time. Let us use 1985 to end the years of inaction and to inaugurate a new era of cooperation between government and industry, working together to rebuild our national economy and create new employment," he said.

ism, insurance are 'big business'. They employed far more people than the manufacturing industries."

"And so we have to look not only at our solid manufacturing base and to extend that, but we also have to look to the great areas that I have indicated

because that is where the really large number of jobs reside."

The Prime Minister also said during the interview that she believed that disarmament talks would avert a star wars build-up in space weaponry, which could destroy nuclear warheads before they reached their target.

She said: "To go from one successful research experiment, as the Americans have done, to translating that into weapons would be enormously expensive. It would take 20 or 30 years. 'If the West does that, then the Soviet Union would be bound to have to spend similar amounts of money on doing the same."

"Until at the end we would both end up with a similar balance at a higher technological level and a very much higher level of expenditure. It doesn't make sense." That argument carried weight both with the Western democracies and with the Warsaw Pact countries, technologically and in terms of common sense and economics and for that reason disarmament talks had a much stronger chance of success.

Woman dies in 200ft pothole fall

A woman from Huddersfield, West Yorkshire, yesterday fell about 200ft to her death in Eldon Hole, in Peak Forest, near Buxton, Derbyshire. Her husband, who was walking with her, was treated for shock.

A spokesman for Derbyshire cave rescue team from Buxton said: "The pothole measures about 60ft by 20ft at the surface and is about 200ft deep. There is a protective fence all round the hole with a gate."

It took two members of the rescue team and a doctor almost three hours to recover the body and bring it to the surface.

Eldon Hole, which has an underground chamber and several passages, has been described as "one of the seven wonders of the Peak".

Need for extra overtime inefficient, TUC says

By Barrie Clement, Labour Reporter

Companies which cut manpower at the start of the recession are now being forced to introduce costly and inefficient overtime, the TUC says.

More employees are having to work overtime and hours are longer, according to the TUC's latest working time progress report.

It points out that, according to official figures, average overtime for those working it increased from 9.3 hours to 9.6 hours in the year to last April.

WORKING CONDITIONS IN EUROPE					
	Belgium	France	Germany	Italy	Netherlands
Working week (hours)	40	38	40	40	40
- by law	40	38	40	40	40
- by collective agreement	36-40	35-38	38-40	36-40	38-40
Annual holidays (weeks)	4	5	3	3	3
- by law	4	5	3	3	3
- by collective agreement	4-5	5-6	4-5	4-5	4-5
Retirement age	65	60	65	65	65
- men	65	60	65	65	65
- women	60	60	60	60	60

Source: TUC

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Mail ought to have printed steward's reply

After reporting on a brewery industrial dispute and apparently relying for its facts wholly on the management, the *Daily Mail* should have been prepared to publish a statement or letter from the other side, the Press Council said today.

The council upheld a complaint by Mr Peter Montgomery, of Meyrick Avenue, Luton, formerly a shop steward at the Whitbread brewery in Luton.

Mr Montgomery wrote to the editor and asked for the letter to be printed as a reply to the company statements.

Six days later the *Daily Mail* printed a reader's letter congratulating the brewers on closing the plant. Mr Montgomery wrote again to the editor. Hearing nothing, he complained to the Press Council that having published an account, based solely on management statements, the newspaper failed to allow him to reply on behalf of the workers.



Ringling in the New: Ernie Wise, the comedian, in Dickensian mood, at St Katharine's Dock, London, yesterday, where he introduced the Vodafone, described by its makers as the first British mobile and portable telephone service.

Yard mount Trafalgar operation

By Stewart Tindler

Scotland Yard is putting into operation plans in central London tonight for the traditional New Year celebrations in Trafalgar Square, to prevent crowd problems or serious injury.

New arrangements were introduced last year after two women were trampled and 500 injured in 1983, as crowds tried to converge on one exit from the square at the end of the celebrations. After the incident, the police reviewed their plans and the amended operation will be repeated today.

Electronic boards will flash messages to the crowds telling them of exit arrangements, travel facilities and crime prevention. The fountains have been drained and boarded, while other street furniture, such as pillar boxes, will be searched then sealed.

The King Charles Island in the square will be turned into a first aid reception area for casualties, and ambulances will run down Whitehall to hospitals nearby.

Extra trains and buses are being run this year and travel on London Transport buses and the Underground will be free from 11pm tonight.

Random breath tests urged

Random breath tests were urged yesterday after the "failure" of the Government's campaign against drink and driving over Christmas. Mr Peter Brindley, Conservative MP for Leicester East, has tabled Commons questions demanding a full report from ministers on the effect of what he described as the misguided "stay-low" campaign.

Several police forces have reported more rather than fewer offences over Christmas.

Family found unconscious

Mr Raymond Stevens, his wife, Doreen, and her daughter, Michelle Minchinick, aged 17, were in intensive care last night after they were discovered unconscious at their flat in East Molesey, Surrey. Their pet Yorkshire terrier was lying dead nearby.

The alarm was raised by a local estate agent after Michelle did not arrive for her Saturday job. A spokesman at Kingston Hospital described the family's condition as fair.

Neighbours said that a gas fire had been left full on inside the flat and all the windows were closed.

Little scope for tax cuts, Lawson says

By Sarah Hogg, Economics Editor

The scope for tax cuts in the spring was limited, the Chancellor of the Exchequer, Mr Nigel Lawson, said yesterday, in a clear attempt to damp down expectations of big giveaways in the Budget, scheduled for March 19.

In an oblique retort to stories that he might have scope for £3 billion of tax cuts, after sterling's further fall against the dollar and the resulting increase in oil revenues from the North Sea, Mr Lawson, in an article in the *Sunday Times*, said: "I wish I was as confident as the press appear to be that I will have even half the scope for tax cuts that they write about."

However, the Chancellor confirmed that he was aiming for "both tax reform and tax reduction" to make his 1985 proposals a "budget for jobs". He attempted to refute the argument, advanced by many of his own backbenchers, that money spent on public works had more impact on employment than tax cuts.

Mr Lawson argued that public investment was now highly capital-intensive and that tax cuts stimulated enterprise and encouraged lower pay settlements, which he described as "the most direct way to more jobs."

The Treasury will soon publish a paper demonstrating its view of the link between pay and employment.

The Chancellor will not have a final view of the scope for tax cuts within his financial strategy until the Treasury has produced its spring macro-economic forecast in February.

However, Treasury ministers will be meeting for their traditional weekend seminar on the Budget at the end of this week.

PCs die in car chase crash

Senior police officers last night launched a review of the use of plainclothes officers after two constables were killed when their unmarked car hit a tree during a high speed chase.

Police Constable Peter Deans, aged 25, and Police Constable Jonathan Stapley, aged 27, had gone to question a driver sitting in his parked car. But before they could identify themselves he sped away. It was feared that the motorist mistook the plainclothes officers for robbers, and drove off because he feared for his safety. The chase began in the Hotwells area of Bristol early on Saturday.

A police spokesman said: "Driving conditions were hazardous with a hard frost and the officers' car failed to negotiate a turn." The man they chased was identified and has been cleared of any blame.

PC Stapley (left) and PC Deans: Killed during high-speed chase.

Companies support NCB but demand stiffer competition

By Edward Townsend, Industrial Correspondent

Britain's company directors today gave a resounding vote of confidence to the National Coal Board's ability to win the pit dispute while at the same time calling for the industry to be exposed to greater competition from other energy sources.

The latest business opinion survey by the Institute of Directors, covering 200 members, mostly chairmen or managing directors, shows that 77 per cent are in favour of reinvestment in the coal industry when the strike is over.

The survey indicates growing optimism about the country's economic prospects, despite the miners' dispute. One in seven directors report that their business has been affected by the dispute compared to one in six three months ago.

The report points to the first signs since April of a rise in business confidence. Twenty-seven per cent of respondents are less optimistic about economic prospects than they were six months earlier, compared with a low of 42 per cent of directors last October.

Mr Graham Mather, head of the institute's policy unit, said: "The results suggest that the collapse of confidence during the second half of 1984 has halted, but it is too early to say that positive optimism about Britain's economic prospects is increasing."

Asked specifically about the aftermath of the miners' strike, 64 per cent of directors said they were in favour of stepping up the nuclear programme, 61 per cent wanted open-cast coal production expanded, and 61 per cent said the chief concern was insufficient customer demand.

Pits produce a third of their normal output

By our Labour Reporter

At the end of the working year the collieries were producing about a third of their normal output, according to the National Coal Board.

But in the week ended December 24, production was 63,000 tonnes more than 170,000 tonnes up on the previous highest output achieved since the strike began last March.

Out of 174 pits, 67 were producing coal and at a further 81 members of the National Union of Mineworkers were reporting for duty. At 26

collieries there were no NUM members at work and 21 of these were in South Wales.

According to the board more than 69,000 pitmen out of 169,000 were not on strike at the end of the year, about 17,000 since having returned in November after negotiations broke down. Mr Scargill, president of the NUM, calculates that about 144,000 of his members are still out.

The board's attention is now firmly fixed on the new year. About 159 pits are due to open on Wednesday.

and those who know him suspect that the socialist purity of his manifesto would be enough to scare off all but the smallest handful of nominating MPs.

The publicity attracted by Mr Kinnock's appeal for unity will inevitably smother his new year message to the country, published last night, in which he recalled that Mrs Margaret Thatcher had promised that 1984 was to have been "a year of hope and a year of liberty."

Mr Kinnock said that the Government had pursued policies which had multiplied misery and diminished freedom.

"That is why people of all politics and no politics have a common interest in rejecting those policies, and in making common cause for the constructive alternative."

Clergy in church uproar may speak in the US

The two Ulster clergymen, a Presbyterian minister and a Roman Catholic priest, whose Christmas Day exchange of greetings led to scuffles inside and outside a co-Londonderry church, have been invited to the joint guests of honour at the next St Patrick's Day parade in Boston, Massachusetts.

Protesters from the Rev Ian Paisley's Free Presbyterian Church were ejected by worshippers from the Rev David Armstrong's church at Limerick when they rose to heckle the local Catholic parish priest, Father Kevin Murphy.

It was the second year that the two men had attended each other's Christmas services in the lavishly appointed town. Father Murphy disclosed yesterday that the committee organizing the St Patrick's Day parade in Boston, next March, had invited them to take part and to undertake speaking arrangements in and around the city.

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The home competitors in the tournament are not as strong as usual: as none of the English grandmasters accepted invitations to play on the ground, it seems that they were offered insufficient appearance money.

This is a rather ironic and cruel state of affairs, as a number of the grandmasters concerned had gained the title through playing in the Hastings event. However, the organizers do not dispose of sufficient funds to enable them to offer appropriate appearance fees.

A trust is to be set up to provide sufficient money to fill the gap.

Halfpenny to disappear after 704 years

By Robin Young

The halfpenny finally gets the shove tomorrow when it ceases to be legal tender. Britain's smallest and least loved coin, notorious for getting lost in pocket corners and furniture upholstery, goes the way of the farthing and the groat, relatively unlamented.

In the form it had taken since decimalization in 1971 the halfpenny, or half p, was among the smallest coins issued in Britain since the Dark Ages. It weighed a mere 1.782 grams and had a diameter of only 1.714 centimetres, yet before production ceased in March its cost of production exceeded its value.

People were commonly said not to bother to bend down in the street to pick it up if they dropped one, and even its defenders admitted that they found it more useful for refuelling lighters, replacing batteries, balancing penmanship clocks or marking croquet lawns than for spending.

People did not take to calling it the "tiddler", as was suggested when the coin was introduced. Yet the run of our currency litter proliferated with amazing fecundity for something that was declared "superfluous" when banks routinely refused even to acknowledge its existence on cheques.

Despite the common supposition that it had only been issued at all as a sop to public opinion when decimalization was giving the inflation spiral an extra twist, the Royal Mint turned out an average of 120 million little coins a year, and there are supposed to be about 2,500 million of them lurking somewhere now. Perhaps half of them have gone down drains or people's trouser linings.

The miserable half p was last in a long line of halfpennies, which started when Edward I issued pretty silver ones in 1280. The coin became copper under Charles II, and bronze from 1860. Since no pennies were issued from the days of Charles I until George III's reign, halfpennies became the generic term for copper and bronze coinage.

A halfpenny would buy four pounds of flour in 1324, a dozen eggs in 1400, two mutton chops in 1637, two cigarettes and some matches in 1904, and allegedly nothing at all in 1984 when even the post office had rounded up its rates to fill pennies well in advance of the diminutive coin's demise.

The half p will be missed, perhaps not so much, as supermarket checkouts where it regularly made a token appearance in small change. The supermarket chains retained their affection for the coin because they claimed it allowed them to home their competitive edge to the finest degree. Now, however, all are promising to round prices down rather than up, so customers may perhaps benefit more by the coin's disappearance than they ever did by its continuance.

Though it started life as the equivalent of 1.5d, with a value 48 times that of the old farthing, the halfpenny is, at its

Players late for chess tournament

By Harry Goldsmith, Chess Correspondent

Much of the play in the first round of the grandmaster tournament at Hastings yesterday had to be postponed because four grandmasters failed to arrive.

The delay in the arrival of the two Soviet grandmasters, Sveshnikov and Karpov, was due to a muddle on the part of the Home Office which failed to grant them visas in time. The games between the two Russians will be played on the first rest day.

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150.00

Joseph expected to signal legislation on removal of incompetent teachers

Sir Keith Joseph, Secretary of State for Education and Science, is expected to say this week that incompetent teachers may have to be purged from schools by law.

In a policy speech to the North of England Education Conference at Chester on Friday, he will be emphasizing the Government's commitment to improving education standards.

That could mean the introduction of legislation to enable the country's 440,000 teachers to be assessed, if local authorities and teachers' unions fail to agree on their own system of appraising a teacher's classroom performance.

Sir Keith has said on many occasions that he is in favour of local authorities weeding out bad teachers. He hoped that local authorities and unions would agree a system of performance-linked pay increases and a tougher system of teacher probation, in the talks of the Salary Structure Working Party.

But the working party broke up in early December when the largest union, the National Union of Teachers, pulled out of the talks. In the wake of the breakdown, Sir Keith's keynote speech on Friday is regarded as a reminder to the unions and authorities of the Government's determination to seek improvements in the classroom.

The most controversial of the Government's proposals is that of linking pay increments to performance, and the introduction of legislation making compulsory continuous appraisal of a teacher's performance. That would mean that the worst teachers would be penalized by not receiving pay increments, or would be forced out of their jobs, while the best received an annual bonus of £1,000.

If the Remuneration of Teachers Act 1965, is amended the new contract could be introduced as early as 1986.

Last night the teachers' unions strongly condemned Sir Keith's proposals.

Mr Fred Jarvis, general secretary of the NUT, said: "We are totally opposed to teachers' pay being linked to a system of national assessment, it would be extremely divisive in schools."

"It is only a very small minority of teachers who could be regarded as incompetent. This is taking a massive sledgehammer to crack a very tiny nut."

Mr Fred Smithers, general secretary of the National Association of Schoolmasters/Union of Women Teachers, which has 127,000 members, said that he thought Sir Keith was making a "major mistake".

"His priority ought to be to study how to provide motivation for the majority of good teachers, who are losing enthusiasm for their job because they are massively underpaid."

Despair banished as work on minster gathers pace

From Peter Davenport York



Minster montage: Behind the scaffolding workmen tackling the restoration of the south transept, among them Mr Trevor Cottill, (top right), foreman stonemason, seen dressing stone for the gable. And in the New Year Honours an award for the fire officer who led the operation to save the building, Mr Ralph Ford (bottom right), shown with the Archbishop of York, Dr John Habgood, accepting an earlier award.

Beneath a temporary plastic roof and hidden from the view of tourists and worshippers alike by wooden screening, the complex restoration programme in the fire-damaged south transept of York Minster is now well under way.

Six months after flames swept through the thirteenth-century transept, blackening the stonework and reducing the elaborate vaulted ceiling to a mass of charred timbers littering the cathedral floor, repair work is taking place 12 hours a day, six days a week.

It will take five years to complete the full programme of restoration and estimates of the eventual cost range between £3 million and £5 million, but the exact figure will not be known until all plans have been finalized.

But the sense of despair, which was the first reaction among minster staff to the devastation on July 9, has given way to a confident determination that the transept can be restored to its former glory and, perhaps, even improved.

Mr Bob Littlewood is the minster superintendent of works, in charge of the permanent workforce of 53 skilled craftsmen who will undertake the repair programme. He has held the position for 13 years, although he has devoted 40 years of his life to the cathedral, following a family tradition that has seen his grandfather, father, mother, an uncle and now his son on the staff.

In his office, with his leaded window offering a fine view of the minster, Mr Littlewood presides over an ever-growing mass of plans and paperwork, detailing every facet of the repair work. "I was the first person here, after the firemen on that night, and I remember clearly a feeling of disbelief at what was happening. There was a time when I feared we were going to lose the whole building."

"There have been two other serious fires, in 1829 and 1840, and seeing this one was like seeing all those old sketches of previous incidents come to life."

"But since that night we have done an awful lot of work. There is still a tremendous job to do and we still have to keep up some of our routine maintenance work. But I am very optimistic that we can finish on schedule. There is a tremendous feeling among everyone on the workforce to get on with the job."

One of the factors regarded as contributing to saving the building was the decision to collapse the transept roof. That was taken by Mr Ralph Ford, the North Yorkshire chief fire officer, whose action is recalled with award of an OBE in the New Year Honours List.

Last month he accepted, on behalf of the brigade, the Cross of St William of York, presented by the Archbishop of York, John Habgood, Dr, at a service honouring firemen who fought the blaze.

After the initial clearing operation to remove fire debris, clean the stonework and generally ensure the building was safe, the first task was to erect a temporary roof over the structure to keep out the worst of the winter weather, and enable men to work in the dry.

Then several miles of scaffolding was erected inside the transept to provide support for the building and work platforms, all hidden from view behind wooden paneling that has created a series of tunnels in the Minster sealing off the damaged section from the main cathedral area.

The most expensive and time-consuming part of the restoration programme will be the creation of a new oak-vaulted ceiling. Yet it is this that has evoked the most remarkable response and offers of help.

Mr Littlewood has received more than 100 offers of oak

trees for use in the ceiling, including donations from the Queen, the Prince of Wales, several large country estates, and even from suburban homeowners offering a solitary tree.

The wood will be used to create 68 carved wooden bosses, the largest weighing half a ton, which will link the cobweb of 200 oak ribs, the largest weighing more than a quarter of a ton and 24 feet in length. One problem taxing Mr Littlewood is how to recognize the generosity of those donors.

They may end as part of the history of the Minster, their names or family crests carved into the finished oak beams.

Early in the new year, the dean and chapter are expected to give final approval to the design and structure of the permanent replacement roof for the transept, and work will start on that immediately.

There will be a large crane on hand to lift heavy roof trusses into place, and mobile hoists to provide work platforms, but much of the stone and timber work will be done as it has been for centuries by hand.

"It's a great pity really that the public can't see just what goes into this restoration work. In this age some people think that all you have to do is switch on a machine and everything is turned out automatically."

"In reality, when it comes to carving an oak boss or dressing a new stone, then we use the techniques that have changed little over the centuries. It's all done by hand," Mr Littlewood said.

New Year honours, pages 4 and 5.

Golf course murder charge

A man will appear before magistrates in Beaconsfield, Buckinghamshire, today charged with the murder of Deirdre Sainsbury, a Greenham Common peace campaigner, whose naked body was found on a golf course.

James Valley police have not named the man, aged about 30, who was detained on Saturday. He is from west London and is described as a company representative. The dead woman, who was aged 29, was the daughter of Dr Peter Sainsbury, a leading psychiatrist. The family lives at Bosham, near Chichester, West Sussex.

Her body was found in a copse near the sixteenth green of the golf course at Denham, Buckinghamshire. She was last seen alive on the afternoon of Saturday, December 22, when she visited Guy's Hospital, London.

'Hit men' in Cairo questioned by Yard

By Stewart Tendler, Crime Reporter

Two Britons held in Cairo as would be assassins for the Gaddafi Regime have been questioned by Scotland Yard detectives about Libyan bombings in London.

A report on the interviews, which also cover arrangements for the flight of a Libyan from Britain while facing criminal charges, is being passed to officials of the Director of Public Prosecutions.

Scotland Yard confirmed yesterday that two members of the anti-terrorist squad visited Egypt before Christmas and saw Mr Anthony Gill, aged 48, and Mr Geoffrey Shiner, aged 47. The men face charges in Cairo after Egyptian intelligence officials thwarted an attempt to assassinate a former Libyan prime minister two months ago.

The men were questioned by the British police about bombings in London last March which led to casualties.

The detectives were also interested in the disappearance of Mr Muhammad Shebli, said to be a brother-in-law of Colonel Gaddafi, the Libyan leader. Mr Shebli is thought to have been flown out of Britain last January. Mr Shiner has been linked to the episode.

At the time of the flight Mr Shebli was on bail awaiting trial for charges involving £4,000 worth of cocaine after being arrested in Surrey.

Scotland Yard said that Britain does not have any extradition arrangements with Egypt. It denied reports that the two men had been interviewed about Libyan terrorist activities in London which included the death of woman police constable Yvonne Fletcher, who was shot outside the Libyan "People's Bureau".

Funding tourism 'a cash bargain'

Investment in tourism in Britain is a bargain for the taxpayer, Mr Duncan Black, English Tourist Board chairman, said yesterday. He was launching a campaign to promote English holidays.

The average cost of creating a job by a grant to a tourist project was £4,500, compared with an average £5,500 a year to pay somebody unemployment benefit and £35,000 to create a manufacturing job under the Industry Act, Mr Black said.

More young male suicides

More young men, but fewer young girls are committing suicide, according to figures disclosed yesterday by the Samaritans. At the same time, the number of young people turning to the organization for help is rising.

Some complain of worry and depression over examinations, but the Samaritans regard that complaint as more usually a distress signal, indicating difficulties at home.

The increased suicide rate among young men under 20 is based on a study of statistics for England and Wales comparing three years, 1973-75, with 1981-83.

The total number of suicides among boys rose from 153 in the first three-year period, to 260 in the second. But the figure for girls dropped from 106 for 1973-75, to 84 for 1981-83.

Neither Mr David Evans, general secretary of the Samaritans, nor another senior samaritan, Mr Rex Cannon, could explain the differences. "It is always dangerous to hypothesize on reasons for such an increase among boys. One could pose all sorts of ideas including unemployment, without really knowing," Mr Cannon said.

This year the number of first-time callers to the Samaritans went up by nearly 10,000, from 319,000 the previous year to 328,000, and they included an increase in the number of young callers.

Two face charges over raid on duke's grave

Two men will appear at North Avon Magistrates' Court in Bristol today in connection with the attempt on Boxing Day to dig up the body of the tenth Duke of Beaufort.

Police officers said yesterday that the men, one from London and another from Coventry and both aged 21, had been charged with theft of a cross and criminal damage.

The duke was former Master of the Beaufort Hunt. He died in February, aged 83.

His grave was desecrated in the family burial plot adjoining Badminton Parish Church, near the family home at Badminton House, Gloucestershire.

A hole was dug, wreaths were damaged and anti-hunt slogans were daubed on the church walls. A wooden cross was taken.

Hospitals in Scotland treat more patients

More people were treated in Scottish hospitals last year than ever before, the National Health Service in Scotland employed more staff and the infant mortality rate was the lowest recorded.

Scottish Health Statistics, 1983, published today, show that the number of people treated as in-patients increased to almost 791,000, about 27,000 more than in 1982, when the health service experienced widespread industrial action. Consultant out-patient attendances reached 3.4 million also a record.

The infant mortality figure in 1983 was 9.9 per 1,000 live births. In the main centres of population the lowest rate was in Tayside Health Board area, at 6.3 per 1,000.

Derby organizer leaves £1.3m

Major Peter Merton Beckwith-Smith, of Bishopstone House, Salisbury, Wiltshire, who was in charge of running the Derby at Epsom for 20 years while clerk of the course, left estate valued at £1,300,868 net. He left his property mostly to relatives.

Major Beckwith-Smith was formerly clerk at Aintree responsible for running the Grand National. Other wills, page 14



Farewell to 1984

Mr Michael Foot, MP, yesterday after unveiling a plaque to George Orwell, author of 1984, at 77 Parliament Hill, Hampstead, north London. The "Farewell 1984" event was the idea of Mr Gerald Lussman (left), editor of the Hampstead and Highgate Express.

Orwell lived at the house for six months in 1935, when he wrote *Keep the Aspidochelone*.

Flying. It was there also that he met his first wife Eileen O'Shaughnessy, whom he married the next year.

The black and gold plaque was erected by the Hampstead Plaque Fund. Among those who attended the unveiling ceremony was Mr Richard Blair, the adopted son of Orwell, whose real name was Eric Blair (Photograph: Peter Trievnor).

Police at sixes and eights

By Our Crime Reporter

Police Orders are the Bible of Scotland Yard. Published almost daily they detail everything from public order duties to promotions or new commands. They are never wrong.

Until last Friday. On that day Police Orders committed the sin of confusing a six for an eight. Lesser organs might make such errors but not Police Orders, distributed within the Metropolitan Police for the past 155 years.

So it was that Commander William Taylor, the youngest senior police officer in London, discovered that he had been moved to take command of C8, the Fraud Squad. That was interesting for Mr Taylor because he had expected to be moving to C6, the Flying Squad, where Commander Frank Carter is retiring.

Over the weekend telephone lines hummed. Was Mr Carter, expected to be joining a security firm, staying? Was Mr Taylor being moved unexpectedly?

Yesterday Scotland Yard put out a correction. Mr Taylor, aged 37, takes over the Flying Squad. The new head of the Fraud Squad has not been announced.

This morning investigations will begin. If it happens again, who knows, half of London's police might end up in the wrong place.

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Privatize executive job register, directors say

By Edward Townsend, Industrial Correspondent

Professional and Executive Recruitment, the Government's job-finding agency for managers, is losing about £2 million a year and should be abolished in favour of private enterprise, according to the Institute of Directors.

In a report published today the institute says that the winding up of the agency should be a feature of the Government's job creation proposals expected early in the new year.

The agency, run under the auspices of the Manpower Services Commission, was set up 10 years ago to provide specialist services for out-of-work managerial, executive,

professional, scientific and technical people. It employs 290 staff and has 34 offices.

The institute in a submission to Mr Peter Morrison, Minister of State for Employment, says that funds saved by closure of the agency's commercial business and integration of its remaining activities within the MSC could be better spent on direct recruitment.

Lifestyle of teenage pupils to be studied

A profile of the teenager of 1985 is the main aim of the world's biggest study of child health to be launched next summer. It will involve 15,000 British schoolchildren, all of whom will be 15 in April.

The International Centre for Child Studies, based in Bristol, believes every secondary school will have at least one pupil involved in the survey. The children will be questioned about their lifestyle at home, in school and as they head for a job or unemployment.

The data will be analysed by child experts worldwide.

Professor Neville Butler, director of the centre, said: "We shall be examining the health and background of each child. Everyone will have a full medical examination and psychological tests."

The children will also keep a diet diary for a week and will take part in general aptitude testing.

Professor Butler said: "We will be looking at their recreation, to see how much television they watch, what sports they play and whether they use cigarettes, alcohol or hard or soft drugs."

"As a result we hope to be able to give advice to youngsters about work opportunities, how to fill in their leisure time and how to be better parents for the next generation."

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Amman murder likely to set off new round of PLO internal warfare

From Christopher Walker Jerusalem

Escalation of the internecine war inside the Palestine Liberation Organisation between moderates and radicals backed by Syria is expected to result from the murder in Amman of Mr Fadi Kawasme, the exiled mayor of Hebron, the second largest town in the occupied West Bank.

The daylight killing of Saturday and the angry reaction it has provoked in the Arab world were seen as evidence of the formidable obstacles still in the way of any attempt to break the Middle East deadlock by opening new talks between Israel and a conservative Arab bloc.

Among those who were quick to blame Mr Kawasme's murder on Syria was Mr Yasser Arafat, the PLO chairman, who arrived in Amman yesterday from South Yemen. "Let the hiring killers and rulers of Damascus who protect and direct them know that they will not be able to destroy the will or determination of our people," he said.

Mr Kawasme was shot outside his home in Amman's smart Jebel Hussein district by two gunmen who threw a grenade and then opened fire with silenced weapons. A caller to Agence France-Presse in Paris claimed responsibility for the attack on behalf of Black September, a Palestinian splinter group bitterly opposed to Mr Arafat.

Radicals inside the PLO and their Syrian paymasters have been particularly angered by the recent rapprochement between Jordan, Egypt and the Arafat wing of the PLO, which its implications for future efforts to resolve the Palestinian issue.

The murder came shortly after an abortive attempt, also in Amman, to kill Mr Hani al-



Mr Kawasme, Black September victim.

Hassan, another associate of Mr Arafat. Intelligence sources are convinced PLO radicals are stepping up their campaign to sabotage establishment of a block willing to sit down at the negotiating table with Israel.

King Hussein of Jordan, himself under threat by radical PLO elements, described the killers as cowards who had put themselves at the service of the Israeli Army.

Egypt's Foreign Ministry expressed deep sorrow at the murder, which it described as a "treacherous terrorist act".

Mr Kawasme, who was exiled from the West Bank in 1980 after an attack on Jewish settlers in Hebron, had been seen as a key figure in efforts to start a new Arab-Israeli dialogue in which territory in the West Bank might be exchanged for a peace treaty.

Yesterday, his close friend, Mr Elias Freij, Palestinian Mayor of Bethlehem, in the West Bank, described Mr Kawasme as a man "who believed in the principle of peaceful co-existence with Israel and a political solution". He and other moderate leaders in

the West Bank and Gaza Strip condemned the killing.

Mr Kawasme, an amiable, quietly-spoken man, was elected to the executive committee of the Palestine National Council, the PLO's parliament-in-exile, during its controversial session in Amman last month, which was condemned by Damascus. He was named as the official in charge of affairs in the West Bank and Gaza Strip.

His murder was received with shock and anger throughout the West Bank, where he was revered as a hero after his expulsion and subsequent elevation to the role of international spokesman for the Palestinian cause. Many West Bankers expressed conviction that Syria was behind the killing, in an effort to undermine the growing moderation of the PLO's "loyalist" wing.

In Hebron, shops were closed and hundreds of mourners gathered at the hotel owned by the Kawasme family as relatives attempted to persuade the Israeli military authorities to permit the body to be returned to the town for burial. They were backed by some left-wing Israeli politicians.

Mr Binyamin Ben-Eliezer, a Knesset member of the centre Yabadi party, and the former military commander of the West Bank, who signed Mr Kawasme's deportation order, said: "He... had the potential to lead the West Bank and his people to the [Camp David] autonomy proposals."

Al Hamishmar, the left-wing Tel Aviv daily newspaper, and voice of the opposition Mapam party, said Mr Kawasme was "not a casualty of war, but of the fear of peace."

Israel radio yesterday put at 13 the number of Palestinian leaders who have been assassinated in recent years.

From Christopher Thomas Washington

Mr George Shultz, the US Secretary of State, is manoeuvring into a position of overwhelming domination of United States foreign policy. A number of bureaucratic warfare, he is purging large numbers of State Department officials and wants to reshuffle about a third of America's ambassadors. He is strongly placed to dominate US policy towards arms control talks with the Soviet Union.

He is installing new officials in the State Department who, in American terms, would accept the label "moderate". If he gets Senate approval for the planned ambassadorial changes - most of which are in Latin America, a vital area in US foreign policy - his control of the foreign service will be complete.

Congressional conservatives, who have enjoyed a powerful influence over the Reagan White House and often a decisive role in foreign affairs, are determined to stop Mr

Shultz's quiet, ruthless campaign. They believe the ideological soul of the Administration is at stake.

The timing of Mr Shultz's assault is critical. He will head the Geneva talks on January 7 and 8 with Mr Andrei Gromyko, the Soviet Foreign Minister. He plans to conduct most of the arms control negotiations himself. His principal right-hand man will be Paul Nitze, his special assistant. Other key arms control officials - most of whom have roots outside the State Department - are in effect being superseded.

He is obviously manoeuvring to influence President Reagan on Administration strategy in arms control talks. While Mr Shultz wants to embark on all-embracing negotiations with Russia, conservatives favour a more limited, less conciliatory approach.

His main Cabinet-level adversary in the arms control arena is Mr Caspar Weinberger, the Defence Secretary, who frequently seeks to intrude on Mr Shultz's foreign policy

balliwick. They do not get on. Senator Jesse Helms of North Carolina, the dean of Republican conservatives, is a key congressional opponent of Mr Shultz's "moderate" inclinations. Another is Representative Jack Kemp of New York.

Several events have conspired to help Mr Shultz move to the fore. One is the imminent departure of Mr Edwin Meese, the ultra-conservative White House counsel and a personal friend of President Reagan, to become Attorney General. That will break a vital, powerful link between conservatives and the White House. Though Mr Meese will meet some Senate opposition, his appointment is virtually assured.

Another is the impending departure of Mrs Jeane Kirkpatrick, America's hardline representative to the United Nations. She is still jockeying for a key Administration job. She would have liked Mr Shultz's.

Her replacement, if Mr Shultz gets his way, will be

somebody with a smaller ego, somebody who is happy to adopt a low profile and report directly to him rather than using the UN as a personal political and ideological platform. The job carries Cabinet status. It does not lend itself naturally to that kind of State Department control.

Mr Shultz's proposed reshuffle of ambassadors is the first high profile move of his campaign. Conservative senators are deciding whether to attempt to block some of the planned changes, but it probably will not come to that. Most conservatives believe that Mr Shultz will make a tactical retreat on some of the proposed changes.

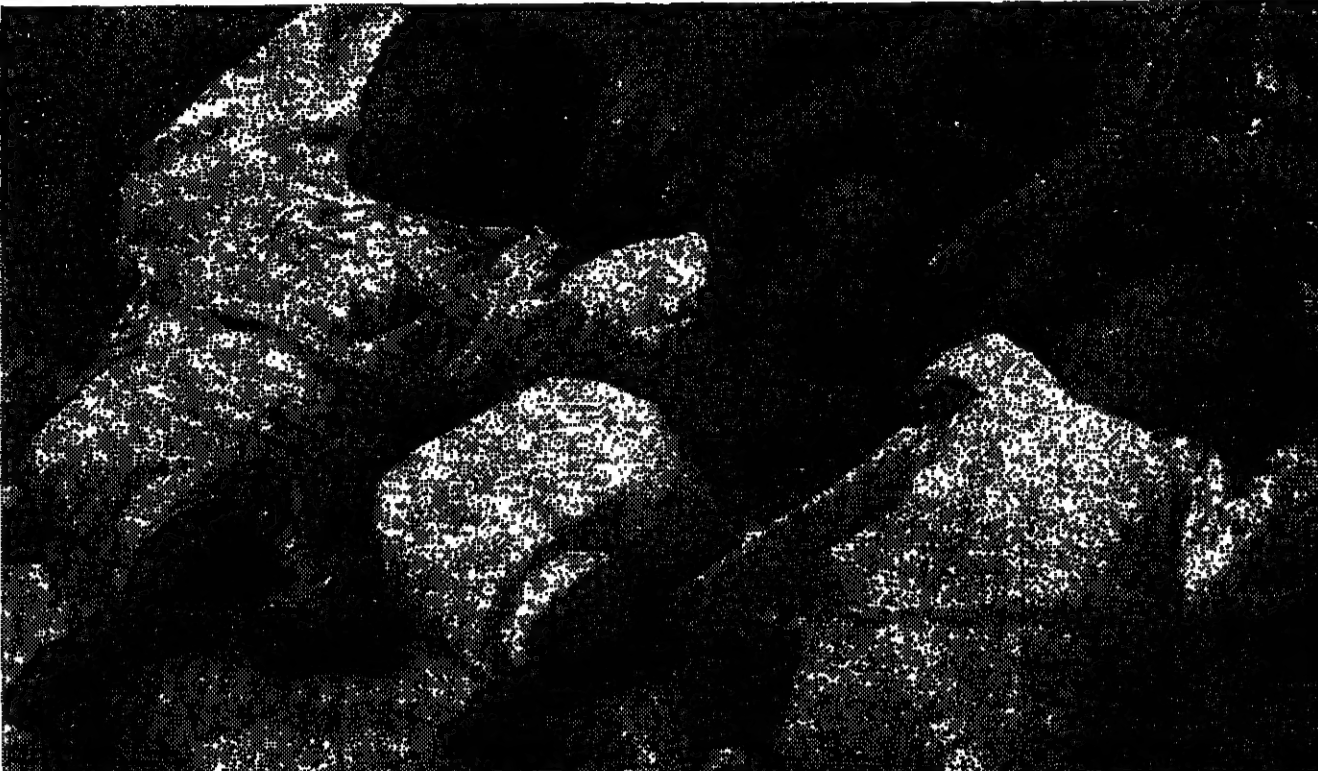
In addition, he plans to change several State Department officials at the assistant secretary level. Most of these were political appointees inherited when he took over from Mr Alexander Haig two-and-a-half years ago. The official line is that those changes, as well as the proposed ambassadorial changes, are routine. Conserv-

atives say that is nonsense, that it is obvious that Mr Shultz is "stacking the State Department with moderates" and attempting to dominate the Foreign Service.

President Reagan, although a conservative, is unlikely to thwart Mr Shultz or undermine his authority in any way. Mr Reagan likes to delegate full authority to his principal Cabinet officers. He will not want to "become involved" in the conservative friends are urging him to do so.

Under Mr Shultz's guidance, it looks as though foreign policy will move closer to the centre. The staff changes so far made in the State Department - all at middle level - are referred to in conservative quarters as "the Christmas massacre".

One of the first casualties, conservative fear, will be the administration's belated policy in Central America. The American making his year of the Nicaraguan port of Limón is not the sort of farcical gesture favoured by Mr Shultz.



Test-tube trio: Daniel, Rebecca and Jonathan Day, the first born triplets at Stanford Medical Centre, California, after test-tube insemination, are shown proudly a day after their birth on Boxing Day.

CBS team denied visa by Pretoria

Johannesburg (AP) - South Africa has refused visas for a black American television journalist, Ed Bradley, and five film crew members to cover Senator Edward Kennedy's visit here this week, according to the African language *Rapport* newspaper.

Mr Bradley and the film crew were being sent by the CBS network's 60 Minutes 233kly news programme, which recently carried a feature presenting a generally positive look at President Botha's moves away from strict apartheid. *Rapport* said the visa denial was an apparent attempt to prevent the CBS team from reporting on South Africa.

Violence erupts in Mexican city

Piedras Negras, Mexico (AP) - Violence erupted in this border city when 2,000 supporters of an opposition candidate for mayor set fire to the town hall and other buildings as the new mayor, a member of the Institutional Revolutionary Party, was sworn in.

Eyes down for bingo sex

Madrid - Police have closed a men-only bingo hall in Granada, where for 5,000 pesetas (£25) a card player competed for the services of any of 16 young women (Harry Debelius writes).

The services offered varied according to whether the winner had a vertical, horizontal or slanted line on his card. Police said some of the girls were minors and others university students.

Dissidents freed

Peshawar, (Reuters) - Pakistan has freed more than 30 political dissidents detained last week for alleged illegal political activities. They included Abdul Wali Khan, a former National Democratic Party leader in the National Assembly, and his wife.

Iberia deal

Madrid (Reuters) - Pilots of the state-run Iberia airline have called off a strike set for next Monday to back demands for shorter hours. Iberia has agreed to hire 34 more pilots and reinstate 10 dismissed during a strike last July.

Nuclear leak

Seoul (AP) - Newspaper reports said a nuclear power plant in Wolsong, 194 miles south of Seoul, owned by the state-run Korean Electric Power Company, has been closed for safety checks after a month-long accidental leak of radioactive water.

Oilmen rescued

Peking (AP) - A Chinese oilfield near the mouth of the Yellow River, forcing more than 2,000 workers to be evacuated by 600 militiamen and troops using rescue planes.

Sudan clash

Khartoum (AP) - Government troops overran a rebel camp in Bentiu, southern Sudan, killing 83 guerrillas and wounding several others according to the armed forces' General Command.

Daylight robbery

Valletta - A 400-year-old painting of St Jerome by Caravaggio was stolen from the museum of St John's Cathedral in Valletta during visiting hours on Saturday.

A bit nippy

Karachi (Reuters) - Animals - mainly dogs but also dokkeys, horses and camels - bite more than 120 people a day in Karachi, according to the *Medical Gazette*.

Jail for reluctant professor

Tel Aviv (Reuters) - The Israeli Army has sentenced a senior physics professor to 14 days in jail for refusing military reserve duty in southern Lebanon, the *Yedioth Ahronoth* newspaper said yesterday.

Professor Daniel Amit, aged 46, chairman of the Physics Institute of Jerusalem's Hebrew University, was court-martialled last week after he told his commanding officers he would defy a call-up order.

"If more people were ready to be punished over the absurdity of serving in Lebanon and refused to participate in this absurdity, the decision-makers would get the message," he was quoted as telling a military judge.

Professor Amit is also deputy chairman of the Israeli Civil Liberties Union.

About one hundred Israelis have gone to jail rather than serve in Lebanon since the 1982 Israeli invasion.

● BEIRUT: A boy aged 11 was killed and two others were seriously injured yesterday when Israeli troops fired in retaliation for a rocket attack on their patrol in the southern Lebanese city of Sidon (AP reports).

Meanwhile relatives of people kidnapped during Lebanon's civil war blocked all crossings between Christian east and Muslim west for the fourth day yesterday and threatened to

continue their protest until the government determines the fate of the victims.

A statement by the "committee of kidnap victims' families" vowed that green line crossings would remain closed at least until the next Lebanese cabinet session on Wednesday.

Hundreds of Christian and Muslim civilians were abducted during the sectarian fighting last February and the preceding September.

● GUNPOINT ABDUCTION: Three Western journalists, two Americans and a Canadian, were abducted, held briefly and robbed by Lebanese gunmen late on Saturday in west Beirut. There were released unharmed.

Niece's plea to embassy refugees

From Our Own Correspondent Bonn

The niece of Herr Willi Stoph, the East German Prime Minister, yesterday appealed in an open letter to the 60 or so East Germans in the West German Embassy in Prague to return home if they hoped to be allowed to emigrate to the West.

Frau Ingrid Berg, who sought refuge in the embassy in February but returned home after receiving a guarantee she and her family would be allowed to leave East Germany, described in a letter in *Bild am Sonntag* how they had left the building "with trembling knees". She was allowed to come to the West about a month later.

This time, however, East Berlin has refused to give any promises that the would-be emigrants, some of whom have been in the embassy for more than three months, will be allowed out. It has said they would not be punished, but has given a warning that this concession would be withdrawn if they did not return home soon.

About 40 of the refugees began a hunger strike to try to force Bonn to obtain exit permits for them. But they called it off. It was announced on Friday, after visits by Herr Hans-Dietrich Genscher, the West German Foreign Minister, and officials conducting the negotiations, who told them there was nothing more Bonn could do.

The talks with East Berlin continued over the Christmas holiday and report that some of the refugees were preparing to go on trial with the former. Some of this hardware has left, though about 90 of the original total of 150 people went back a month ago.

Herr Wolfgang Vogel, the East German lawyer entrusted to conduct the talks with Bonn in all such cases, telephoned the West German ambassador in Prague at the weekend and assured him that each case would be treated individually.

Campaign of terror against US bases

From Our Own Correspondent Bonn

Two bomb attacks on American army installations in Dusseldorf and near Mannheim at the weekend have strengthened fears here that the terrorist group the Red Army Faction, has begun a new campaign against American military bases in West Germany.

No one was injured in the two explosions, which caused damage estimated at about DM 350,000 (£100,000). The target near Mannheim was an unguarded US army communications post in a field near a motorway. A big explosion at around 2am yesterday damaged radio equipment and aerials.

In Dusseldorf a bomb that was probably hidden in a fire extinguisher went off in an American army offices situated among living quarters for the British Army of the Rhine. The fire caused by the blast was brought under control quickly.

Only hours before the attacks

Dam project shelved in Austria

Vienna (Reuters) - Chancellor Sinowatz of Austria, under intense pressure from environmentalists, has shelved plans to clear a controversial dam site.

He told journalists on Saturday that the Government had decided against resuming tree felling on January 4 at Hainburg, east of Vienna, where there were bloody clashes between police and environmentalists last week.

About 2,000 conservationists have been camping at the site to prevent what they regard as the destruction of the Anwald, one of Europe's last primeval forests.

The Chancellor had insisted earlier that work on the hydro-electric dam project, which has strong backing from trade unionists and industrialists, would go ahead. A national movement, however, has demanded a referendum to decide if the dam should be built.

Several people were injured when police and protesters battled last week, and the Government ordered a two-week halt to the tree felling.

The Chancellor said work would be postponed until emotions had cooled down. The Government, he said, would start looking at alternatives in Hainburg.

A new set of energy proposals to be discussed next week would include shelving the project, building several smaller plants instead, or building another big dam on a less controversial site.

New charge in Flick case

Bonn - A new charge of tax evasion is to be brought against Herr Eberhard von Brauchitsch, a former senior manager of the Flick Company who is about to go on trial with the former Economic Minister, Otto Graf Lambsdorff, on charges of corruption (Michael Binyon writes).

The Bonn public prosecutor said the charge was in connection with Flick donations to political parties which were illegally channelled through charitable foundations, thus avoiding tax.

Count Lambsdorff, his predecessor as Economics Minister, Herr Hans Friderichs and Herr von Brauchitsch are due in court on January 10. The two former ministers are accused of having accepted large sums of money for Free Democratic Party funds from Herr von Brauchitsch in return for a large tax waiver.

Two held in train bomb inquiry

From John Earle, Rome

Bombing, were detained at Arezzo and Chianciano respectively in a sweep on the houses of suspected extremists, after a meeting in Florence of police chiefs and investigating magistrates, presided over by the Interior Minister, Signor Oscar Scalfaro.

Both are reported to have had arms in their possession and are alleged to have had links with the extreme right-wing National Revolutionary Front.

In the past 10 years the stretch of railway line between Florence and Bologna has been attacked 12 times.

The Government is under heavy pressure from opposition parties to investigate both the attacks and allegations of complicity by secret service members.

Minister sacked in Mauritania

From Susan MacDonald Dakar

The new President of Mauritania, Colonel Maouiya Sid Ahmed Ould Taya, has replaced his Foreign Minister, Major Cheikh Sid Ahmed Ould Babamine, appointed when Colonel Ould Taya seized power on December 12.

The new Foreign Minister is Lieutenant-Colonel Ahmed Ould Minnihi, who was appointed Minister of Justice after the coup, and was Foreign Minister under the previous regime.

Despite a steady security build-up in the weeks leading up to the anniversary on December 27, rebels started hitting Soviet and Afghan military installations with 107mm rockets on December 24, the diplomats said.

The attacks went on until at least Friday night, damaging a school and a mosque and setting a warehouse on fire.

Guerrillas based in Peshawar quoted initial reports from couriers as saying that more than a dozen Afghan and Soviet soldiers were killed in the bombardments, an annual feature of the deadlocked war.

In a rare glimpse at official statistics on communist losses, diplomats quoted unnamed official sources as saying 17 Soviet and 46 Afghan soldiers were killed in Kabul in November. Nine Khad secret police and 52 Afghan militiamen were also killed.

Pained Greens end their tense tour of Israel

From Moshe Brilliant, Tel Aviv

Members of the West German Green party left Israel yesterday saying they were pained and hurt at being labelled anti-Semites and anti-Israel.

Their tension-filled Israeli visit was the last leg of a fact-finding tour which included Syria, Jordan and Lebanon.

At a press conference before returning to West Germany, Herr Jürgen Reents conceded that the Greens as a German party were heard more critically in Israel than missions from other countries. He said the fact its members had not been born in the Nazi period did not permit them to disclaim responsibility for what had happened.

Prisoner nearly hacked his way to freedom

From Ivor Davis Los Angeles

It will be a happy new year for Mr Scott Robinson who has been released from prison so he can spend New Year's Eve with his two young sons.

Mr Robinson was the man who almost made it home for Christmas. But he boasted to a cellmate how he had broken into the prison's computer code and changed his date of release so he could be with his children - and Santa Clara County sheriff's officials ruined those plans.

But Mr Robinson, aged 23, a lorry driver, was not punished for tampering with the computer, although the sheriff's office has launched an investigation to see if any other prisoners were sent home early thanks to Mr Robinson's generosity.

Mr Robinson was working as a trustee at the San José, California prison where he was serving an 11-month sentence for stealing video games. In the jail office with plenty of time on his hands he began to play with the prison computers - and learned how to break the machines' codes, hook up to inmates' records and switch his release date to December.

But while bragging about his prowess on the keyboard a guard overheard him. Mr Robinson confessed all.

Now he plans to study computer programming in the future and give up lorry driving. "I think there's a good future in those machines," he said.

Chess battle fizzles out with another draw

Thirty-sixth game

Kasparov, white; Karpov, black

1 P-Q4 P-Q4 2 P-Q4 P-Q4 3 N-K3 P-Q3 4 B-N3 B-N3 5 P-B3 P-Q3 6 B-N3 B-N3 7 P-B3 P-Q3 8 B-N3 B-N3 9 P-B3 P-Q3 10 B-N3 B-N3 11 P-Q4 P-Q4 12 P-Q4 P-Q4 13 P-Q4 P-Q4 14 P-Q4 P-Q4 15 P-Q4 P-Q4 16 P-Q4 P-Q4 17 P-Q4 P-Q4 18 P-Q4 P-Q4 19 P-Q4 P-Q4 20 P-Q4 P-Q4 21 P-Q4 P-Q4 22 P-Q4 P-Q4 23 P-Q4 P-Q4 24 P-Q4 P-Q4 25 P-Q4 P-Q4 26 P-Q4 P-Q4 27 P-Q4 P-Q4 28 P-Q4 P-Q4 29 P-Q4 P-Q4 30 P-Q4 P-Q4 31 P-Q4 P-Q4 32 P-Q4 P-Q4 33 P-Q4 P-Q4 34 P-Q4 P-Q4 35 P-Q4 P-Q4 36 P-Q4 P-Q4 37 P-Q4 P-Q4 38 P-Q4 P-Q4 39 P-Q4 P-Q4 40 P-Q4 P-Q4 41 P-Q4 P-Q4 42 P-Q4 P-Q4 43 P-Q4 P-Q4 44 P-Q4 P-Q4 45 P-Q4 P-Q4 46 P-Q4 P-Q4 47 P-Q4 P-Q4 48 P-Q4 P-Q4 49 P-Q4 P-Q4 50 P-Q4 P-Q4 51 P-Q4 P-Q4 52 P-Q4 P-Q4 53 P-Q4 P-Q4 54 P-Q4 P-Q4 55 P-Q4 P-Q4 56 P-Q4 P-Q4 57 P-Q4 P-Q4 58 P-Q4 P-Q4 59 P-Q4 P-Q4 60 P-Q4 P-Q4 61 P-Q4 P-Q4 62 P-Q4 P-Q4 63 P-Q4 P-Q4 64 P-Q4 P-Q4 65 P-Q4 P-Q4 66 P-Q4 P-Q4 67 P-Q4 P-Q4 68 P-Q4 P-Q4 69 P-Q4 P-Q4 70 P-Q4 P-Q4 71 P-Q4 P-Q4 72 P-Q4 P-Q4 73 P-Q4 P-Q4 74 P-Q4 P-Q4 75 P-Q4 P-Q4 76 P-Q4 P-Q4 77 P-Q4 P-Q4 78 P-Q4 P-Q4 79 P-Q4 P-Q4 80 P-Q4 P-Q4 81 P-Q4 P-Q4 82 P-Q4 P-Q4 83 P-Q4 P-Q4 84 P-Q4 P-Q4 85 P-Q4 P-Q4 86 P-Q4 P-Q4 87 P-Q4 P-Q4 88 P-Q4 P-Q4 89 P-Q4 P-Q4 90 P-Q4 P-Q4 91 P-Q4 P-Q4 92 P-Q4 P-Q4 93 P-Q4 P-Q4 94 P-Q4 P-Q4 95 P-Q4 P-Q4 96 P-Q4 P-Q4 97 P-Q4 P-Q4 98 P-Q4 P-Q4 99 P-Q4 P-Q4 100 P-Q4 P-Q4

Draw agreed.

Dollars at end of otter trail

Clermont-Ferrand (AFP) - M Christian Bouchardy, a 34-year-old employee of the French Welfare Administration, has won the Ford Foundation's \$5,000 (£4,300) nature conservation prize for more than 10 years of research on otter droppings.

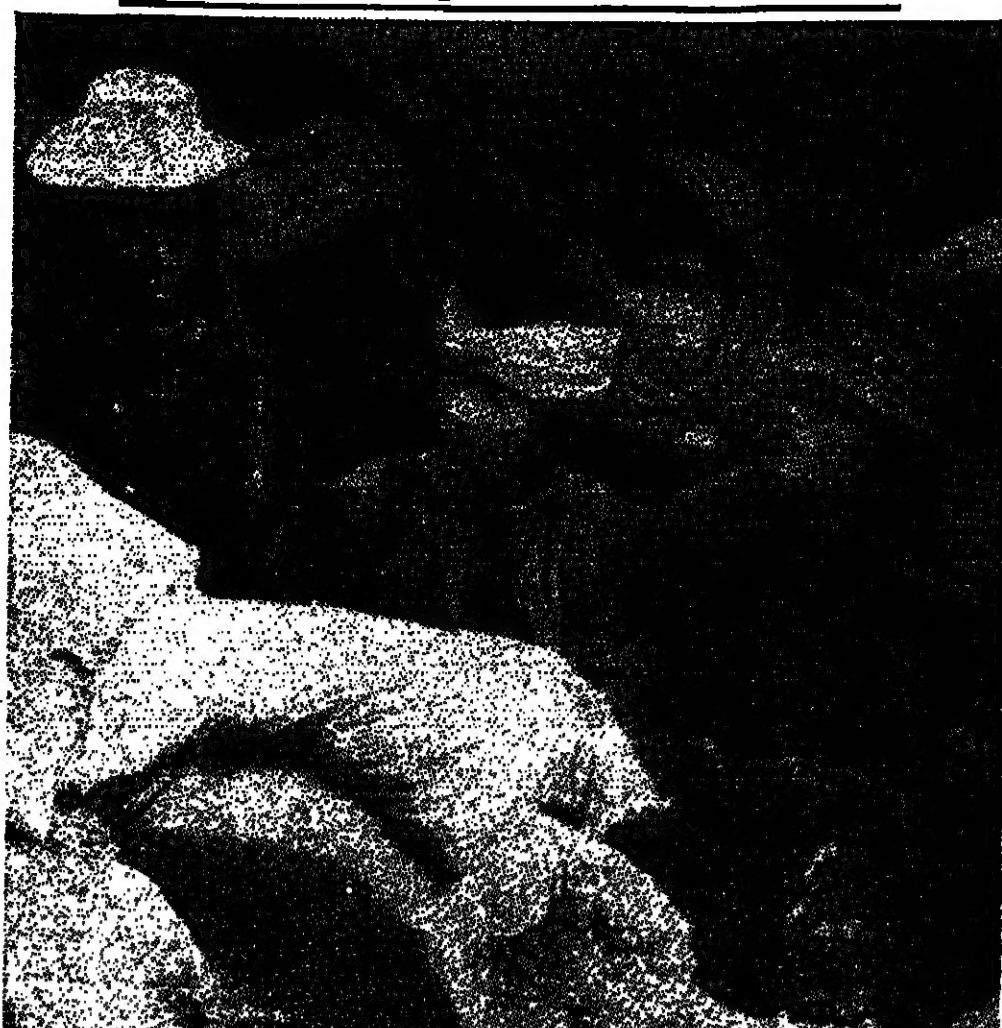
Mr Bouchardy has collected more than 4,000 otter droppings, allowing him to study their eating habits. He said he had seen otters on only three occasions.

Handwritten note: 12/31/84

1950

RACAL

Digging in against Vietnamese



On guard: Guerrillas of the Khmer People's National Liberation Front preparing for a possible Vietnamese attack on Ampil base, as heavy fighting continues at Nong Samet near by.

Battle rages for base

From Neil Kelly, Bangkok

One of the bloodiest battles of the war in Cambodia between guerrillas and Vietnamese forces is being fought at Nong Samet, a resistance base near the Thai border which the Vietnamese overran last week. Thai army officers said the fighting and the casualties were the heaviest they had seen. The International Red Cross said casualties appeared to be heavy on both sides. Guerrilla leaders said at least 30 of their men were killed in counter-attacks to recapture one section of the base. The Red Cross treated 90 severely-wounded Cambodians

and others were waiting for attention. Many had been hit by shrapnel.

It is now known that since the fighting began on Christmas Day, more than a hundred guerrillas of the Khmer People's National Liberation Front have been killed. Before yesterday's battle, 90 Vietnamese had been killed, the front said.

After being bombarded yesterday for four hours by Vietnamese guns, 3,500 guerrillas launched counter-attacks. The guerrillas, armed only with light weapons, fought against artillery, mortars,

tanks and more than a thousand Vietnamese and Cambodian government soldiers. They claimed to have knocked out two Russian-made T54 tanks. It is uncertain how much of the sprawling Nong Samet camp the guerrillas have retaken. Earlier they said they were occupying half of it.

Twelve miles north-east of Nong Samet, Vietnamese tanks, armoured troop carriers and infantry were reported to be in position near the front headquarters at Ampil, the last of its bases still intact. Almost 5,000 guerrillas there expect an attack at any time.

Japanese boost for defence

From David Watts Tokyo

Defence spending and overseas aid were the only areas of government spending allowed sizeable increases next year when haggling over the Japanese budget ended at the weekend.

The Finance Ministry had tried to cut virtually all purchases of new front-line equipment presented by the defence agency before Christmas and had sought to hold back further increases in overseas aid.

It was forced to give way on both counts in spite of what the Government billed as an "austerity budget". Spending in the fiscal year 1985 will be 3.7 per cent above 1984's figure at \$2,499 billion yen (about £175 billion).

Defence spending for the new year will rise by 6.9 per cent and overseas aid by 10 per cent, the latter in order to meet Japan's commitment to double its overseas aid by the end of next year.

The Defence Agency will be allowed to proceed with the purchase of the Patriot ground-to-air missile defence system from the United States, 14 more McDonnell-Douglas F-15 Eagle fighters and 10 Orion anti-submarine aircraft.

The Finance Minister, Mr Noboru Takeshita, is continuing to take a tough line with public spending in an attempt to reduce Japan's burgeoning public debt.

But despite the ministry's stringency, money was found to start work on two Shinkansen "bullet" train lines, to help Japan to participate in the US manned space station project and to start research on large rockets capable of putting satellites in orbit.

Old guard bows to Deng as 40 officers resign

Peking (Reuters) - China has announced the resignation of about 40 senior army officers to help to rejuvenate and modernize its four million-strong armed forces.

The *Liberation Army Daily* said the senior officers, some ranking just below the chief and deputy chiefs of the general staff, resigned earlier this month to make way for younger men. Most of the officers, all serving at the General Staff Headquarters, were aged over 60.

Mr Deng Xiaoping, the Chinese leader, who controls the forces by being head of China's Central Military Commission, called in November for older officers to make way for younger ones, saying: "I hope to see more open-minded people in the Army."

China is in the middle of a modernization programme for its large but ill-equipped armed forces. Mr Deng wants to introduce younger, better educated officers who understand modern technology to replace

Nakasone expects rough ride in US

From Our Own Correspondent, Tokyo

Mr Yasuhiro Nakasone, Japan's Prime Minister, will be President Reagan's first VIP foreign visitor of the new year in a bold attempt to influence the policies of the new US Cabinet and head off serious trade frictions.

The meeting, at Mr Nakasone's initiative, indicates an urgent need to tackle several issues before key appointments to the new Cabinet are announced, and before the new round of US contacts with the Soviet Union begins in Geneva on January 7.

Overshadowing the meeting will be an American trade deficit with Japan which is expected to reach \$35 billion (£30 billion) this year and perhaps \$40 billion or more next year.

The US Government will be under stronger pressure than ever to get tough with the Japanese. Although Mr Reagan has said it is difficult to take a hard line with his friend "Yasu" the Japanese are preparing themselves for some rough sailing on January 2. The Prime Minister will be accompanied by Mr Shintaro Abe, the Foreign Minister.

Among the trade issues the Americans will press will be market access for American telephone and communications

equipment manufacturers when the Japanese national telephone system becomes privatized next April. The Japanese have indicated that foreigners will not be permitted to buy into the new private company at its formation and there is little chance of American firms being able to sell equipment to the new company.

Another issue, symbolically of greater importance because of its status as the totem of all trade issues, will be future US imports of Japanese cars. The present round of "self-restraint" measures by Japanese manufacturers ends in March.

In either case, the Japanese response will be to emphasize recent market opening measures, liberalization of the yen, which the Americans believe will relieve some of the trade imbalance, and a willingness to consult in the future.

Some Japanese press reports this weekend suggested Tokyo might offer to reactivate a cabinet-level Japan-US committee on trade and economic affairs which has not met since 1973.

A senior Foreign Ministry official dealing with North American affairs said the Japanese would be emphasizing that Japan's trade balance with the United States was only part of a global phenomenon and that any attempts to manage trade between the two countries would go against Mr Nakasone's free trade principles.

Although the trade problems are a key concern for Mr Nakasone, threatening his vital relationship with the United States, he is also concerned that Washington take into account Japanese views in the new round of talks with the Soviet Union in Geneva.

Mr Nakasone and Mr Abe: Expecting tough talks.

Mr Nakasone and Mr Abe: Expecting tough talks.

Ceremony missed by Marcos

Manila (Reuters) - President Marcos failed to appear at celebrations yesterday marking the 88th anniversary of the death of the Philippines' national hero, José Rizal.

Instead he was represented by the Prime Minister, Mr Cesar Virata.

According to the official programme, the President, his wife Imelda and family members were to lay a wreath at the Rizal monument in central Manila and put the national flag to half-mast.

A palace spokesman gave no reason for Mr Marcos's failure to appear at the ceremony.

The President, aged 67, who is recovering from an illness, putted for about an hour on Saturday on the palace's golf course, one of the few times he has been seen outdoors since going down with what was described as influenza, allergies and asthma.

A recruiting brochure, surely in desperation, declares: "Book House is well served by buses and British Rail Southern Region. Ample free on-street parking is available." Leaving aside the vile prose, it is less surprising that there is parking in the street than that, if you cannot stop the car, it is necessary to find a railway station before discovering the NBL.

The director is Martyn Goff, OBE. His predecessors were John Hadfield and J. E. Morpurgo. Allen Lane's biographer, Mr Goff - and not only because of the exotic spelling of his first name - should long since have become Sir Martyn. It would no doubt delight him but, more significantly, would make the work of this tireless, remorseless crusader for the British book within Britain that little bit easier.

Mr Goff became director in 1970. He has been a huge success, and become so identified with the place and its multifarious activities that it is hard to think of someone to replace him. The salary is meagre, and Mr Goff can only afford to run the League because of his other activities: book-selling, reviewing, writing novels.

The book trade made a grievous error in allowing the NBL to move to Wandsworth. However much the Royal Academy, National Theatre, British Film Institute or Arts

explained to Barry Norman in last night's programme. Mr Norman stayed very calm as he entered the maelstrom, and he came out the other side chastened but unharmed. His documentary was, as a result, filled with interesting information: there are, for example, some fifty million single people in the United States, most of whom have appeared on a game-show called *Love Connections* in which the prize is the contestant. The larger prizes go elsewhere: a successful game will distribute some four million dollars a year to the lucky few who have for a moment been plucked from obscurity, but it will also acquire some fifty million dollars in advertising revenue. No wonder these shows have come to represent the American dream. Everyone gets something for nothing, and many of us are entertained in the process.

Founded in 1925 as the National Book Council, with the principal aim of fostering the growth of a wider and more discriminating interest in books, it became an educational charity in 1951. Its membership two decades ago was 10,000 but is now a paltry 4,000, which is why it needs its Arts Council subsidy, although that grant has been static for three years: thus the real "loss" is over £30,000 a year. The membership fee is £2 for an individual, £25 for a corporate body, which includes publishing houses. Frank Delaney has recently become chairman.

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Television: Dennis Hackett surveys the trials and treasures of 1984

Charting one's course twixt mud and stars

"Que sais-je?" asked Montaigne, who, of course, did not have a television set to confuse him. There are now nearly 15,000 hours a year of television available; only 8,760 hours in which to watch it. If, as it neither sharpens the appetite nor aids the digestion, one eliminated breakfast television entirely, and allowed no personal prejudices to preclude, say, the ubiquitous *Wogan*, somehow incomplete without a saucer of milk. Noel Edmonds, Jimmy Hill, Harry Carpenter, hairdressing long-runners such as *Dynasty* and *Dallas*, and all quiz and chat shows, the choice remains incredible.

A reviewer has to make it. On this page I have reviewed 196 programmes in 1984, which means I have seen three times as many as a duty and hundreds of other programmes in pursuit of entertainment or information.

Such saturation may be prejudicial to judgement and, sorting through the lumber, one has also to remember the lines "Two men look out through the same bars; one sees mud - and one sees stars".

So what do I know of 1984 television? What do I remember? The strangest things. For instance, a Chinese proverb from Channel 4's notable *Heart of the Dragon*: "We can't eat a steamed bun in one bite." It sticks in the mind though I have not fathomed it let alone found occasion to use it. Until now.

I remember, too, slime moulds, new and unpromising to me when Professor John Tyler Bonner began talking about them on BBC 2's *Horizon*. But, as the Chinese proverb says, the proprietors were those of embryos and the connotations this could have for human cell growth, it suddenly seemed possible to believe that "by looking at the world through the eyes of a slime mould" he had gained a perspective of larger problems.

Television is a great scatterer of random information and scientific information in particular. Science, as it usually does, had a good year. David

Attenborough's *The Living Planet*, on BBC1, marched lucidly through 12 parts with no loss of enthusiasm from Mr Attenborough nor interest for viewers. Central's *The Good, The Bad, and the Indefensible*, by David Jones, smaller in scale, proved unexpectedly fascinating and, occasionally, alarming, as it dealt with the effects of electromagneticism on people.

On the theology front, by contrast, the Almighty may consider it a year when television could have done better. First, there was LWT's *Jesus: The Evidence* on Channel 4, timed, it seemed, to do maximum damage at Easter or thereabouts but so graphically bizarre and textually confused that it became just a bore. Then there was BBC 2's expensive *The Sea of Faith*. This was earnest and extremely well researched. Its energetic presenter was Don Cupitt, Dean of Emmanuel College, a minor Mr Attenborough in his globe-trotting, which was by no means entirely necessary to make his point. He donated us the idea that though God did not exist we should behave as though he did.

The BBC was on surer ground in documentaries. Its excellent *All Our Working Lives*, with its diligent research and splendid use of archive material, was a classic to stand, perhaps, against that old benchmark, *The World at War*. Its series *SOE* was also compulsive viewing. Channel 4's *Algeria* was a splendid documentary and, on the lighter side, the BBC was very good with Edward Mirzoeff's *The Other Half*, five studies in partnerships with that admirably unobtrusive interviewer John Pinnar, and lately with Mr Mirzoeff's *Italians*.

On the arts side, *Omnibus* swings listlessly while Melvyn Bragg maintains steady progress with *The South Bank Show*. Mr Bragg is unassuming and can be unobtrusive too. He demonstrated it in his memorable programme on Claudio Arrau.

But the high point of the year, stretching from January to April, was Granada's *Jewel in the Crown*. Its start,



Atmosphere brilliantly captured: Tim Pigott-Smith in Granada's *The Jewel in the Crown*

ironically, coincided with the year's biggest slice of ham, BBC1's *The Thorn Birds*. The author, Colleen McCullough, is reputed not to have thought much of this version but I remember it with some affection because of that marvellous line husked by that ageing husker Barbara Stanwyck at Richard Chamberlain's young priest: "Kiss me on the lips as though we were lovers."

There were no infidelities in script or casting in *The Jewel*, which, directed by Christopher Morahan, who also produced, and Jim O'Brien, taught the atmosphere of Paul Scott's quartet unbelievably well. Daphne Manners, Merrick, Barbie and good old Sarah Layton will surely walk again: 13,000 hours of television, even less the Leap Year bonus, make a lot of time to fill.

Peter Ackroyd on weekend programmes

Come On Down! (BBC 1) examined the world of American game-shows. Hatchet-faced "hosts", wearing suits which resemble the flags of all the nations, wield more power than anyone else on American television - with the possible exception of the video-punchers; they talk so fast that their words (if that is what they are) are indistinguishable, and they smile so much that their dimples have moved up to their temples.

The contestants have a hard act to follow, then, but most of them manage it by remaining in a continuous state of hyperactivity. There are, in fact, "professional" contestants whose major qualification appears to be the ability to become hysterical at a moment's notice: "I appropriately say cute and funny things when the occasion warrants", as one of them

explained to Barry Norman in last night's programme. Mr Norman stayed very calm as he entered the maelstrom, and he came out the other side chastened but unharmed. His documentary was, as a result, filled with interesting information: there are, for example, some fifty million single people in the United States, most of whom have appeared on a game-show called *Love Connections* in which the prize is the contestant. The larger prizes go elsewhere: a successful game will distribute some four million dollars a year to the lucky few who have for a moment been plucked from obscurity, but it will also acquire some fifty million dollars in advertising revenue. No wonder these shows have come to represent the American dream. Everyone gets something for nothing, and many of us are entertained in the process.

The Life and Adventures of Nicholas Nickleby (Channel 4), although based upon the original stage production, in fact suited the small screen very well. So powerful is its declamatory Victorian style that it reverberates loudly within the echo-chamber of television; and so much depends upon the actors here, without the benefit of conventional theatrical props, that they become all the more forceful.

Dickens himself is so great a genius that he survives the transition from one medium to another - even, in this case, such a rare hybrid. But it was a wonderful production, the principal virtue of which being that it moved from comedy to sentimental tragedy with almost as much speed and vigour as the novelist himself. And David Threlfall, as Smike, is unforgettable.

PUBLISHING

A league too far

The National Book League makes publishers, booksellers, some librarians and even authors feel guilty. Book-lovers love it. It is appropriate to remember it at this time of year although, like an awkward relative who moves away from one's vicinity, it is easier to forget it.

The reason for its departure in 1980 from an elegant town house in Albemarle Street, Piccadilly - almost opposite the publishers John Murray - was, inevitably, financial. When the NBL was near to the heart of bookland it was constantly used as a meeting place by book-lovers and, perhaps more importantly, by book-trade people, for socializing and for meetings. It had a pleasant restaurant which served salads, quiches and the like, although it took for ever to get a drink. The managers gave the impression that a glass of wine should not be necessary if you already imbibed books.

The Book League now occupies what was previously Wandsworth Town Hall, a monolithic Victorian public building of no special distinction but refurbished adequately. The building has been renamed Book House, which suggests a nervous lack of confidence either in the product or the place. However, the renaming was probably necessary as, walking past 45 East Hill, SW18 2QZ, you would not otherwise expect or know the NBL to be there: not exactly in the sticks (or across the Styx) but, frankly, it is a singularly inconvenient place - however much its director protests the contrary - to find the country's Mecca of books.

A recruiting brochure, surely in desperation, declares: "Book House is well served by buses and British Rail Southern Region. Ample free on-street parking is available." Leaving aside the vile prose, it is less surprising that there is parking in the street than that, if you cannot stop the car, it is necessary to find a railway station before discovering the NBL.

Founded in 1925 as the National Book Council, with the principal aim of fostering the growth of a wider and more discriminating interest in books, it became an educational charity in 1951. Its membership two decades ago was 10,000 but is now a paltry 4,000, which is why it needs its Arts Council subsidy, although that grant has been static for three years: thus the real "loss" is over £30,000 a year. The membership fee is £2 for an individual, £25 for a corporate body, which includes publishing houses. Frank Delaney has recently become chairman.

The director is Martyn Goff, OBE. His predecessors were John Hadfield and J. E. Morpurgo. Allen Lane's biographer, Mr Goff - and not only because of the exotic spelling of his first name - should long since have become Sir Martyn. It would no doubt delight him but, more significantly, would make the work of this tireless, remorseless crusader for the British book within Britain that little bit easier.

Mr Goff became director in 1970. He has been a huge success, and become so identified with the place and its multifarious activities that it is hard to think of someone to replace him. The salary is meagre, and Mr Goff can only afford to run the League because of his other activities: book-selling, reviewing, writing novels.

The book trade made a grievous error in allowing the NBL to move to Wandsworth. However much the Royal Academy, National Theatre, British Film Institute or Arts

explained to Barry Norman in last night's programme. Mr Norman stayed very calm as he entered the maelstrom, and he came out the other side chastened but unharmed. His documentary was, as a result, filled with interesting information: there are, for example, some fifty million single people in the United States, most of whom have appeared on a game-show called *Love Connections* in which the prize is the contestant. The larger prizes go elsewhere: a successful game will distribute some four million dollars a year to the lucky few who have for a moment been plucked from obscurity, but it will also acquire some fifty million dollars in advertising revenue. No wonder these shows have come to represent the American dream. Everyone gets something for nothing, and many of us are entertained in the process.

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Martyn Goff: tireless crusader for the book

Council may like the idea of premises infinitely cheaper than those they occupy in the centre of the metropolis, the thought of being banished to a borough described as reachable by British Rail has not, rightly, been seriously contemplated. Both the book trade and literature are weakened, even diminished, by the NBL's exile.

No single person - not Jeffrey Archer, nor William Golding, nor even Desmond Clarke - has done more for British books in the last two decades than Martyn Goff, yet he should go.

The view of books which he promulgates belongs to the 1960s and 1970s. It was not remotely his fault that the NBL - the name should be changed, too: "League" smacks of Empire and patronage, worthiness and plevy - had to leave Albemarle Street. It is the fault, and fault it is, mainly of fat publishers who are concerned for "the book" only when their profits are tumbling. To pretend that the mighty world of contemporary English letters can be promoted from Wandsworth is reckless.

A replacement must be found for Mr Goff. Maybe the best solution would be for the Book Marketing Council, child of the Publishers' Association though it is, to absorb the NBL. We can no longer afford the genteel, under-capitalized proselytizing of an independent organization. The future of the British book is too important for that. And, whether we like it or not, it is publishers who have the money, who need the book to survive.

E. J. Craddock

Theatre

Humpty Dumpty Dominion

As the traditional Christmas repertory happens to lack a story featuring a Northern comedian and a talking duck, Keith Harris and Orville break into the London pantomime scene with a fable that gives them a free hand. Wafted into the Land of Nursery, Orville - a totemic bird at the best of times - gets stranded among a pack of Kate Greenaway walk-ons, little realizing that the great egg perched on the palace garden, conceals the person of Mr Harris, whose cheery features burn out of the shattered remains at the first crack of the witch's double-joints.

The manifest purpose of this, and subsequent episodes, is to show how ventriloquism has moved with the times. Not only does Mr Harris keep the double-act going without the slightest trace of mouth-movement; he can also walk off stage and leave Orville to moan and roll those pitiful eyes without assistance.

Jointly, their act consists largely of soliciting "ahs" for something cuddly and defenceless and then sending up the response: rotten: a response Mr Harris works to the limit in the finale (much the funniest part of the show) with an aggressively competitive monkey that would clearly like to see Orville dished up with orange sauce.

Irving Wardle

Concert

Chillingirian Quartet Wigmore Hall

Perhaps the Chillingirian Quartet had not quite surfaced from the Christmas deluge. Or perhaps it was that, like all too many, they genuinely felt indifferent on this occasion to Haydn's music. Either way, from their lifeless, timid opening in that composer's "Sunrise" Quartet, Op 76 No 4, to their monochromatic version of its finale, it was apparent that they were unwilling to invest much imagination in the work.

The Adagio was far too slow, its pedestrian effect exacerbated by some shapeless and seamless phrasing, though to be fair there was a welcome rhythmic life in the Menuetto. But on this evidence the Chillingirian have a few cobwebs to sweep aside if their Haydn is to be taken at all seriously.

After this not exactly encouraging beginning, Jonathan Williams arrived to play Mozart's Horn Quintet, K407, and his presence inspired music-making that was several degrees more positive.

Mozart's challenge to the horn player remains a daunting one, even given the comparative sophistication of today's instrument, yet Williams was able to negotiate even the most virtuosic passages with magisterial control, phrasing intelligently and colouring his sound imaginatively into the bargain. But again I found the slow movement, modestly marked Andante, a trifle leaden-footed, and still the sweetness of the strings played rather than intalized.

Beethoven simply does not

permit indifference from his performers, so it was perhaps unsurprising that the Chillingirian were heard at their best in the second "Rasumovsky" Quartet. The disparate ideas that are flung one by one into the melting pot of the extraordinary first movement were here uncompromisingly contrasted, but the Chillingirian's attention to details of dynamic and articulation, their innate sense of impetus, and their apparent awareness of each other's parts made for a movement that sounded miraculously unified.

Elsewhere, the reading was not without its faults. The long, sublime Adagio seemed to lose its way near the end, and certainly the playing was riddled with imperfections, the most annoying of which was the first violin's intonation, which had been erratic all night. But those are small quibbles in the face of the fact that this composer, at least, was given something like the justice due to him.

Stephen Pettitt

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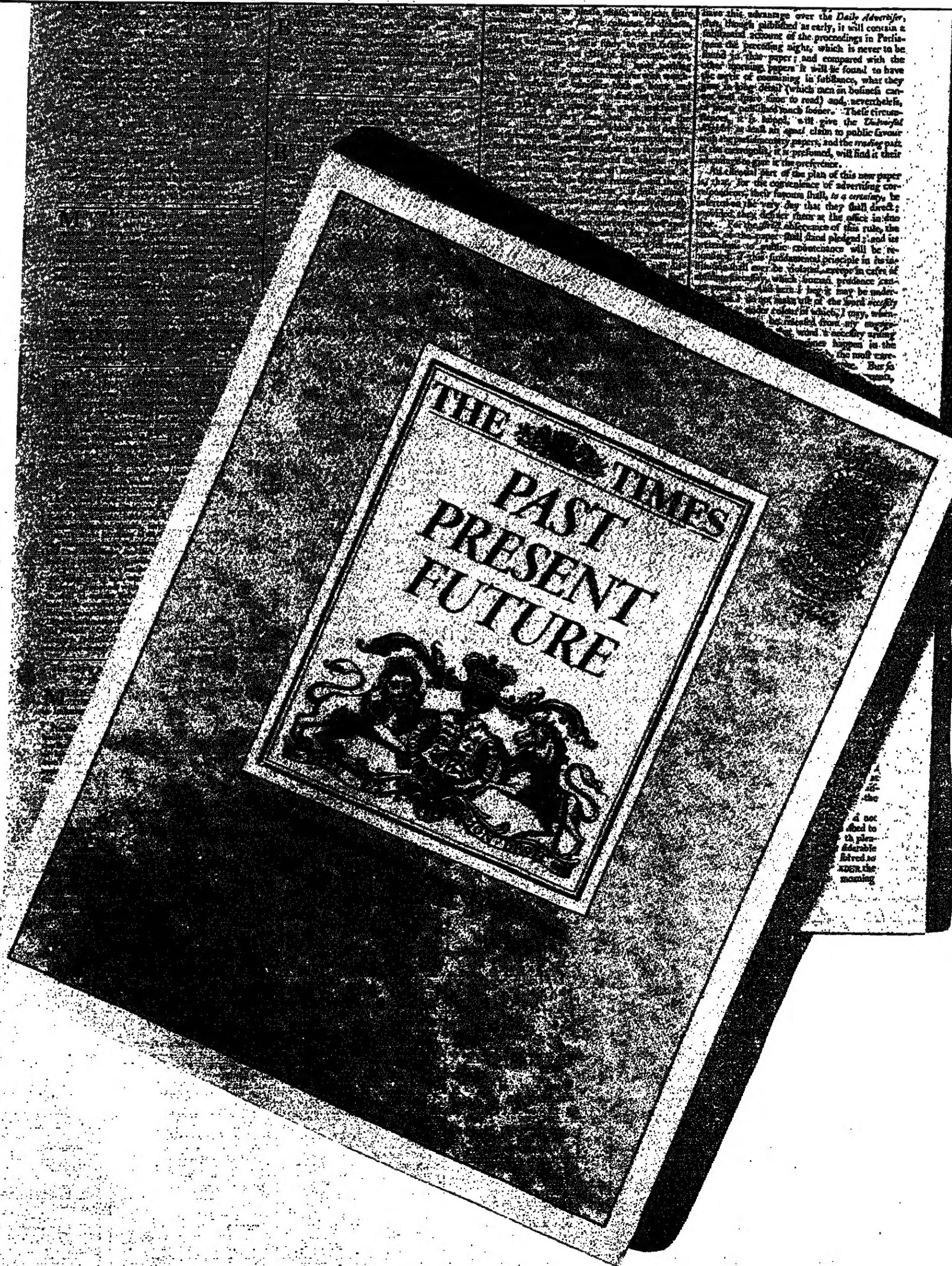
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British: a child's message from the coalfields



A year of suspense

The Comet, baleful, portentous, betokening the overthrow of rulers and confounding of prophets, is somewhere in the outer darkness at this moment, hurrying towards us. If the astronomical time-tables are adhered to, it will spread its great tail across the sky just before Christmas next year. Or else (you never can tell with comets) it will creep dimly, as if it had used up all its virtue terrifying pre-historic Chinese emperors, toppling King Harold, and conferring immortality on the name of Edmond Halley.

Many beggars starved this year without benefit of any sign from heaven, other than Hercules transporter planes - too late, too few and too entwined with red tape. Since Halley's Comet last passed by 75 years ago, history has advanced to the extent of two world wars and hundreds of little ones, scores of revolutions. And more devices - both to ease our lives or snuff them out - have been invented in that time than perhaps in all the centuries since the flying arrow killed King Harold.

The Comet will find us more cramped, more ingenious, but fundamentally less changed than we might think.

This year presumably counts as a minor one on the celestial vintage charts, for there has been no notable comet to distinguish it - only a thunderbolt. But if this has been a quiet year, we may feel that we could be spared an exciting one. Even the thunderbolt, a very emphatic statement in its way, was, as usual, ambiguous on close inspection. When lightning set fire to York Minster the night after the Bishop of Durham had been confirmed in office there, did it imply a divine distaste for scriptural revisionism, for clerics sitting on political fences, or simply for talkative bishops? Or was it a sign, subliminally understood, and acted on, that God would not tolerate any more pussyfooting about women priests?

No signs from heaven guided the course of the coal strike. Superficially, British politics had one of its most tumultuous years in memory - certainly since 1974, probably since 1926, perhaps since the beginning of the century. Yet there was a curious sense in which 1984 was politically a quiet year, a year of suspense. In terms of heads broken, property burned and brute force coming to grips with brute force on a large scale, it was unprecedented. But picket line conflict drew so irresistibly attention and loyalties that a strange stillness fell over other aspects of political life. The future alignment of political forces and perhaps the character of society were being determined far from Westminster.

It was a poignant torment for the Labour movement. Nostalgia for the simplicities of the class struggle made it impossible to reject the only group of workers putting up a significant resistance to rampant Thatcherism. The strikers were unprecisely visible sitting over their collecting buckets outside public libraries, with only too much time to spare to chat and dispel the bogey image.

But with anguish and hesitation, the movement as a whole found itself uneasy to the dialectic of the pickaxe-hand, so with words of encouragement and Christmas parcels, they drew the consequently doomed strikers into losses it would take years to make up. Thus that new thing in British politics, a significant minority deeply alienated from the state, was being gradually brought into being.

As for Mr Scargill, framing the issue in terms which ensured - that compromise meant capitulation for either side, he rode high on the morale of his troops, adamant in breathing no criticism of what ever means they adopted in pursuit of their end, until after eight months he mellowed to the point of declaring, after the taxi driver was murdered in South Wales "that the NUM dissociates itself from any acts of this kind which occur anywhere away from the picket line."

No votes were cast either in the year's second most dramatic event in British politics. Unidentified lobbyists laid a bomb in the Grand Hotel, Brighton, set to explode during the Tory Party conference. It was an unanswerable contribution to the Ulster debate in its way: four people were completely silenced by it, several others will bear the scars for life. The Prime Minister herself would probably have been silenced too had she not put off going to bed to finish one more Cabinet paper, a characteristic Samuel Smiles touch. A few hours later she appeared without a hair out of place to reap the political rewards due to elected leaders untroubled by the argument of violence.

It was a not unrewarding year for diplomats, with agreement at last over the EEC budget, and a treaty over Hong Kong which appeared handsome if you could trust the Chinese (and you had to).

But Westminster itself was oppressed by an uneasy sense that the real events in home politics were happening elsewhere. There was more opposition from the Government's own back benches than from the other side, and the most notable mark was made by speeches from peers of around a century old. The metropolitan gad-flies once again succeeded in diverting the Government from its mission of enacting a new Beveridge. The GCHQ

trade unionists were insulted by the offer of mere money, and took it. Little Miss Tisdall was sent to prison.

Economic recovery, long heralded and feeble, brought no relief to unemployment nor to the piecemeal erosion of public services: the comfortable majority found their earnings rising faster than inflation, as usual; the petro-pound sank from all-time low to all-time low until it was so obviously not worth the paper it was written on that it became necessary to abolish the pound note.

Proving once again that for a true star it is not the lines you speak, but the way you put them across, President Reagan emerged as the world's foremost Keynesian and peacemaker, presiding benignly over a budget-deficit recovery. He disengaged himself with aplomb from the Lebanon with heavy loss of lives but none of votes. Prosperity, peace and an enthusiastic campaign endorsement from Mr Gromyko: it was a wonder anyone voted for the Mondale-Ferraro ticket at all. The morning after the election, the bills began to come in, and advocates of expansion around the world were depressed to observe that the iron laws of

was playing hordes of memsahibs, and tourism prospered. But in India itself the problem of Indian-ness was more than a picturesque spectacle. As if the IRA had seized Brompton Oratory and declared a Irish Libya there, Sikh nationalists seized and fortified the Golden Temple. After long prevarication, Mrs Gandhi sent the troops in. She retained Sikhs in her entourage, and before long exploded the bloodshed in perhaps the only way possible for India's wounds to heal. Her son, of whom no-one knew either good or ill, had hardly taken office when the Bhopal disaster killed 2,500 and blinded an uncounted number. Never in history, probably, had human error killed so many at one stroke.

Most notable avoided mishap of the year: in the hush surrounding Mrs Gandhi's funeral, a plane flew from Delhi to London carrying Mrs Thatcher, the Foreign Secretary, the leader of the Labour, Liberal and Social Democratic parties, Princess Anne, and the Irish Prime Minister. This plane did not crash.

It was also Olympic year. At those glittering auditions for athletes about to become professional and rich, Britain had its share of heroes to set beside the incomparable Carl Lewis - Daley Thompson, Tess Sanderson, Sebastian Coe and Steve Ovett for trying. But the principal heroes, practically elevated to royalty, were Torvill and Dean, who had the entire country awash with Ravel's Bolero for months on end.

England's cricketers astonished observers and themselves in December by winning their first Test in thirteen after an unprecedented run of frustration and humiliations. Liverpool won the European Cup, the League title and the Milk Cup. Zola Budd flashed into our ken and out again like some brilliant comet, leaving an uncomfortable impression that the worlds of sport and politics had both been found wanting.

It was not all Ravel and maharajahs in the world of the arts. Rather a lot of good novels came out (Bookers: Ballard, Amis, Carter...), not all of which could win the Booker Prize. A Booker-style Turner Prize to market painting was instituted and the first winner was Malcolm Morley. We lost a lovely poet, Laureate and gained a baleful one.

It was the year the Cambridge eight rowed full tilt into a barge; the year the turkeys were poisoned and the Mars Bars were not; the year the trains kept coming off the rails; the year Frankie went to Hollywood; the year of Adrian Mole, Hedgehog crisps and the preening of Liverpool. The tabloids competed to be the first to band some lucky reader a million pounds.

It was the driest summer for nearly ten years, then the wettest autumn. Nature usually makes up its imbalances, if allowed to. Man's growing power to tamper with the process has no such tendency to equilibrium. The Mexico City explosion and Bhopal, technology to guard against famine poisoned thousands; in Ethiopia a famine largely man-made starved tens of thousands. Acid rain withered our forests and radioactive outfalls poisoned the seabed, while the leaders of the great powers elaborated their Star Wars scenarios.

If the Comet casts its single glaring eye down as it passes next year, it may be inclined to wonder whether it will find any of us left next time it visits.

For much of the year, India was in vogue. The *Jewel in the Crown* teased our memories of power and guilt over the Raj. Gandhi and *Heat and Dust* were on the rounds; Peggy Ashcroft

THE TIMES

JANUARY

1: Maj.-Gen. Mohammed Buhari emerged as new military ruler of Nigeria after almost bloodless coup on New Year's Eve. His regime was pledged to end corruption and inefficiency: it was the fourth military intervention since 1966.

Documents declassified under the 30-year rule showed that Parnon tried to buy Falkland Islands from British Government in 1983.

2: The Queen asked Fleet Street editors to call off photographers and reporters who had been harassing the Royal Family during their New Year holiday at Sandringham.

Declassified documents showed Churchill's opposition to the concept of independent television and therefore his reluctance to break the BBC's monopoly.

3: Habib Bourguiba, President of Tunisia, declared a state of emergency and imposed a curfew after food riots.

Lieut. Robert Goodman was released by Syria after intervention by the Revd Jesse Jackson.

Britain lifted barriers against imported milk.

Blizzards brought disruption in northern areas.

Compensation paid to six cancer victims at Salford power station, but plant would not accept liability.

7,000 men were sent home as NUM overtime ban was extended to a tenth week.

Equity dropped its opposition to working during the weekend, leading to speculation that London West End theatres might experiment with Sunday opening.

Lord Hailsham, the Lord Chancellor, reprimanded a judge who attacked as "an affront to British justice" a decision by FW Woolworth to prosecute a widow for alleged shoplifting.

5: King Hussein reconvened his national Parliament for its first formal session since the West Bank was conquered by Israel 16 years ago.

National shipyard strike called off less than 24 hours before it was due to start.

Jaguar Cars announced record world sales of 2350 million.

Peugeot closed its French power station after 55 people were injured in violent demonstrations.

6: Sir Keith Joseph announced ambitious plans to reform school curricula.

10: English regions of NHS to be given extra cash in next financial year as part of plan to boost cash for poorer health regions.

Shares surged to record on Stock Exchange and FT 30-share index closing at 800 points.

11: Dr Kissinger's commission on Central America reported.

recommending expenditure of £8,000 million (£5,755 million) between 1985 and 1990.

Revolt of winding men against overtime ban continued to spread, particularly in traditionally moderate areas.

12: Two British lorry drivers were charged by demonstrating French farmers. Mr Neil Kinnoch raised the "disgraceful" affair with President Mitterrand.

New Cross Building Society, with 95,000 investors, taken over by the Woolwich.

13: US issued detailed rebuttal of many of the Soviet claims made at the suspended Geneva intermediate-range nuclear force reduction talks.

Sir Geoffrey Howe upset Israelis with remarks made during a visit to Saudi Arabia urging Jerusalem to recognize the rights of Palestinians to self-determination.

16: Mr Tony Benn chosen as Labour candidate for Chesterfield, winning one third of ballot.

17: Mr Edward Heath led Tory revolt against rate capping, voting with Opposition against a three-line whip.

18: President of the American University in Beirut shot down. NGA announced it was returning to court to purge its corrupt of a former forking unlawful picketing.

Herr Manfred Wörner, the West German Defence Minister, dismissed General Guder.

Kissinger, the Deputy Commander of Nato on grounds of security risk.

18: A TUC document, *Strategy for the Future*, said unions must adapt to changing circumstances.

20: Young jeweller valued his necklace worth £750,000 from armed robbers who raided a shop.

19: Inflation announced to be at lowest level for 16 years.

Mr Michael Heseltine visited Falklands.

21: Mr Peter Heathfield, leader of Derbyshire miners, elected as General Secretary of NUM, a victory for the left.

First test tube triplets born in Britain.

22: Britain in grip of Arctic blizzards; nine dead.

Mr Francis Pym led abstention by more than 12 Conservative MPs against 1984-85 rate support grant proposals.

Committee of Yorkshire County Cricket Club resigned over Geoffrey Boycott.

Strike by National Union of Seamen halted ferries.

24: One-day strike by teachers closed 11,000 schools in London.

Mr Thatcher defended her son's privacy against Commons questions about his part in gaining an Omani contract for a company with which he was associated.

25: Staff at GCHQ deprived of their union membership.

British Shipbuilders announced they were to shut down three yards and shed 1,672 jobs.

26: Mr James Prior fought off demands for his resignation after publication of a highly critical report on the escape of 38 IRA members from the Maze Prison.

27: Civil servants in the Cabinet Office and Treasury walked out in protest over the GCHQ decision.

28: President Reagan announced he was seeking re-election, encouraged by his best opinion poll figures for two years.

30: Government announced plans to raise Parliamentary deposits from £150 to £1,000.

South Africa disengaged its forces from Angola.

FEBRUARY

1: General Kissel was rehabilitated but announced he was taking early retirement.

2: The Council of Civil Service Unions issued a list of seven government intelligence installations previously regarded as secret.

Mrs Thatcher flew to Budapest. Mr Barney Hayhoe, Treasury Minister, announced sites of six free ports.

Britain agreed to take part in oil convoys through Strait of Hormuz.

4: President Genset's Cabinet resigned.

President Reagan told his doctors to "reveal all" about his health.

6: Muslims captured western half of Beirut.

The space shuttle, Challenger, launched a satellite but it went into useless orbit: its third failure.

7: British troops pulled out of Lebanon after US Marines announced their withdrawal.

Captain Bruce McCandless became first person to enter space without safety lines and the first to move in a void.

8: Opening of fourteenth Winter Olympic in Sarajevo.

9: Sultan of Johore elected King of Malaysia.

President Afshar launched corruption investigation in Iran.

10: Death of Yuri Andropov after 15 months' rule.

Mr Harold Macmillan created an earl on his 80th birthday.

13: Khrushchev's successor became the new General Secretary of the Soviet Communist Party.

14: Christopher Dean and Jayne Torvill won Olympic gold medal.

15: British and US troops stayed away from Salford because of accidental discharge of radioactive waste.

17: Sean Connery awarded £2.8 million damages against his financial adviser.

18: Blockade of French roads and railway lines by angry lorry drivers failed.

21: Mrs Thatcher claimed the Government had support of most staff at GCHQ for the union ban.

Government defeated in Lords on phone tapping; vote passed to make tapping the subject of statutory control.

22: Mr Ian MacGregor knocked over a £500,000 bank note.

23: French Government offered cash to help lorry drivers trapped in the Alps by the dispute.

MARCH

1: Mr Benn elected at Chesterfield with a 8,254 majority.

Government announced it was to provide British Aerospace with £250 million of launch aid for its share in the development of the next joint European airliner, the A 200 Airbus.

2: Pentagon placed order worth £100 million with Short Bros of Belfast.

40 GCHQ staff asked for transfer to another government department rather than accept the ban on union membership.

5: Wounded Iranian soldiers flown to Stockholm and Vienna for treatment showed symptoms of poison gas.

6: President Genset tore up Lebanon's unofficial treaty with Israel.

Mrs Thatcher announced that Lord Whitlaw was the only deputy she needed in answer to the 1982 Committee recommendation that she appoint an official deputy.

Ariane, the European Space Agency rocket, blasted into orbit.

8: Greek army troops went on alert after Greece accused Turkey of firing on a destroyer.

9: Strike involving 83,000 men started in the mining industry.

10-11: 28 people in London and Manchester injured in bomb attacks, believed to have a Libyan connection.

13: The Budget introduced the most sweeping changes in taxation for a decade, with substantial cuts in income tax; abolition of surcharge on substantial investment incomes.

14: Mr Gerry Adams shot three times in street attack in Belfast. Banks cut interest rates to lowest level for nearly six years.

Record-breaking £500 million burst of trading on London Stock Exchange.

15: Flying picket crushed to death at Clifton colliery.

ACAS accused Government of questioning its impartiality by its decision to appoint an official from the body to advise management on industrial relations at GCHQ.

16: Law Society protested to Lord Hailsham over "damagingly low pay" for doing legal aid work.

South Africa and Mozambique signed a non-aggression pact.

17-18: Dominic McGlinchey, most wanted IRA man, extradited to Ulster from Republic.

Yorkshire Area Executive of NUM decided to continue with intensive picketing.

Oxford won the Boat Race in a record time of 16 mins, 45 secs.

20: European Summit in Brussels broke down over Britain's large contribution.

Pickets closed 80 per cent of pits. Sarah Tisdall jailed for six months after admitting leaking secret documents on cruise rockets.

French troops left Beirut.

22: The Queen started State Visit to Jordan. Government announced a recruitment drive for an extra 11,000 soldiers for Territorial Army by end of decade.

27: Britain had trade surplus of £219 million, the best for a year.

Striking miners choked motorway section of A1 by driving 150 cars in convoy.

28: The Queen called Israel plans for expansion on the West Bank "depressing".

Jardine Matheson announced they were to leave Hong Kong.

29: The Government ordered M15 to conduct a comprehensive overhaul of security inside Defence Intelligence Staff after reported weaknesses.

Nissan chose Washington New Town as location for £50 million assembly plant.

30: Arts Council announced most fundamental shift in state funding for the arts in its history, diverting £6 million out of London into 12 strategic areas.

APRIL

2: 48 injured in Arab terror attack in Jerusalem.

5: Commons Foreign Affairs Committee criticized Government for adopting lethargic approach to Grenada crisis.

Virgin Atlantic airline won licence to fly passengers from Gatwick to New York for £280 a plane.

11: Mr Heath accused Government of "gerrymandering" over GLC.

Mr Chernomir elected President of Soviet Union.

13: Seven British servicemen remanded in custody by Bow St magistrates under the Official Secrets Act.

Israeli troops stormed hijacked bus.

18: Michael Bettany, an M15 counter-espionage officer, jailed for 23 years on charges under Official Secrets Act. Mr Robert Mugabe talked of curbs on foreign journalists after reports in British and American papers of army brutality in Malawi.

Mr "Tiny" Rowland criticized editor of Observer over articles.

17: Libyans opened fire from Libyan People's Bureau in London, killing James's Square, London, killing WPC Yvonne Fletcher.

18: British Ambassador to Libya and his staff, virtually held prisoner, were released. British and US back in profit. Prince Andrew criticized for spraying paint over photographers on an American tour.

WPC Yvonne Fletcher

20: 22 injured in bomb blast at Heathrow Airport. Sir Geoffrey Howe announced that Britain would leave Hong Kong in 1997.

Moderate Nottinghamshire miners called out on strike.

22: Britain broke off diplomatic relations with Libya and ordered all diplomats in the People's Bureau to leave the country within seven days.

24: Observer's five independent directors censured Mr Rowland for "improper proprietary interference" in editorial freedom.

25: The son of Senator Robert Kennedy, David Kennedy, who had a drug problem, died in a hotel room.

Mr Robert Maxwell agreed to pay £150,000 in fines imposed on two print unions whose members had been occupying his London HQ.

26: British diplomats' wives and children from Tripoli arrived at Gatwick Airport as 140 Libyans flew out of London; siege of Bureau ended.

Greek Olympic Committee called off ceremony of lighting flame for 23rd Olympic in Los Angeles.

MAY

2: Report of the New Ireland Forum.

President Reagan met Pope in Alaska.

Convoys of coal lorries ran blockade of pickets outside Ravenscroft.

3: Conservatives lost control of Birmingham City Council in local government elections.

7: British women working in Iranian bank in London told to wear chador.

8: Soviet Union officially withdrew from Los Angeles Olympics.

Napoleon Duarte elected President of El Salvador.

10: 222 pickets charged with obstruction at Strathclyde.

King Juan Carlos of Spain visited Moscow.

11: Serious falls on stock market: FT 30-share index dropped 33.8 points.

13: Unita freed 16 Britons taken hostage in Angola in February.

14: 20,000 took part in miners' protest march in Mansfield; 55 later charged.

16: Saudi supertanker ablaze in the Gulf.

Dennis Skinner, the Midland Bank representative in Moscow who died in a fall from his flat, was unlawfully killed, a Croydon inquest found.

18: Everton beat Watford 2-0 in Cup Final.

21: Mr Len Murray said he would disown sympathy strikes in support of miners.

22: Soviet Union expelled head of security at British Embassy in Moscow in retaliation for expulsion of Soviet diplomat from Britain.

Schools closed as teachers started three-day strike.

23: Six people, including two children, killed in explosion on visit to an outdoor pumping station at Abbeystead, Lancashire.

24: £4.4 billion wiped off value of shares in London as stock market registered biggest fall for decade.



25: Nottinghamshire miners won "right to work" orders from High Court.

26: Worst Spring Holiday weather on record.

27: Miss Margaret Harris won *Mastermind* with record 38 points.

28: Herr Genscher announced he would resign as Head of the FDP before the next election, leaving conjecture about the possible break-up of the coalition.

29: Biggest-ever trade deficit (in April) was announced.

30: 44 pickets arrested and 69 injured in a re-run of "Battle of Saltley" at Orgreave.

France and Germany announced they were to abolish customs formalities.

30: Mr Scargill arrested at Orgreave. London stock market lost £4.6 billion off value of shares.

JUNE

1: London stock market staged record one-day recovery.

President Reagan visited Ireland.

2-3: One crewman dead and 18 missing after the *Marquesa*, a British brigantine, sank in Tall Ships race.

Mr P. W. Botha, the South African Prime Minister, met Mrs Thatcher.

4: President Reagan, addressing Irish Parliament, urged Russians to return to negotiating table.

Guide to the memorable events of 1984

Continued from page 10

He was later found drowned in a creek at St Albans.

Sale at Sotheby's of a Turner seascape for £7,370,000 was a record at auction.

6: Consecration of the Right Revd David Jenkins as Bishop of Durham in York Minster was interrupted by protests.

7: Chief of Defence Staff and his service heads exercised their right to go over the Secretary of State for Defence and made representations directly to the Prime Minister on service cuts.

8: Lightning was blamed for fire which destroyed south transept of York Minster.

Andrei Tarkovsky, the Soviet film director, announced he was to seek political asylum in West Germany.

10: General Synod of Church of England approved second marriage of divorcees in church.

11: NUM openly defied the High Court and adopted new disciplinary procedures that could be used to try and strike rebels.

12: Mr Walter Mondale nominated Congresswoman Geraldine Ferraro as his Vice-Presidential running mate.

A commission of inquiry said that inadequate precautions were taken at the Falkland Islands hospital where eight people died.

The European Parliament budget committee released the £475 million net rebate for Britain's excessive payment of the Community budget.

13: Mr Robert Maxwell acquired the *Daily Mirror* and pledged it to fight for the return of a Labour government at the next election.

14: Mr Richard H. Burton, retired chairman of Gilete Industries, announced as first chairman of the Cable TV Authority.

The Pope summoned Father Leonardo Boff, the Brazilian theologian, to Rome in what was seen as a move to discipline political priests.

West Indies beat England by 172 runs in the Fifth Test, to take the series 5-0.

16: Strategy document presented to the Liberal Party's election strategists, concluded that the nature and direction of the Alliance with the Social Democrats "must be resolved in the early years of the Parliament" or the delay would be "devastating".

John DeLorean found not guilty on eight charges of drug trafficking.

17: Launch of National Working Miners Committee, first national challenge to the union leadership.

Mr Robert Maxwell started binge circulation war with announcement of a £1 million prize competition.

18: Eleven people killed when a veteran Vickers Viscount crashed en route to an air show.

Democrats embarrassed by allegations and disclosures concerning the Farraro tax and business interests.

20: Driver killed and 25 passengers injured in a crash on the underground.

New advocacy rights announced to allow 5,000 barristers employed by banks and the Civil Service to appear in court.

21: Mr MacGregor said that the Government and police should consider taking Mr Scargill to court over violence on the picket lines. Six men returned to work in the militant South Yorkshire coalfield.

22: The bulk carrier *Orelia* was ordered to dock at the Hunterston terminal and unload its cargo, thus provoking a dockers' strike.

23: President Reagan was nominated to stand for the Republicans. There were 29.6 per cent registered votes in the first election to the new Coloured Chamber of the South African Parliament.

The Sun announced its first £1 million bingo winners.

24: An immediate national dock strike was ordered by the TGWU.

25: The Mount Louis, carrying 450 tons of radioactive nuclear waste, sank off the Belgian coast. Lord Whitelaw was involved in a shooting accident on the grouse moor.

27: Technicians walked out at Thames Television.

28: Seven of the largest 10 ports

joined the dockers' strike. Mr Frank Chapple, leader of the electricians, accused miners' leaders of setting workers against workers. The US economic deficit rose to a record \$14 billion.

1: Malcolm Cooper won Britain's first gold medal in the Olympics for small-bore, three-position shooting.

2: Twenty-five people were slightly injured when an Inter-City express was derailed near Newcastle upon Tyne.

3: Sir Geoffrey Howe announced that Hong Kong's "unique economic system and way of life" were to be preserved under an agreement reached with China in Peking.

4: The Government announced that unemployment rose to 12.9 per cent in July.

5: Arbitrators awarded teachers a 5.1 per cent pay increase backdated to April, only 0.8 per cent above the employers' final offer.

6: Mr Brian Mulroney heavily defeated the Liberals in the Canadian general election, ending 25 years of their rule.

7: Horizon, Britain's third-largest tour operator, announced price increases averaging 23 per cent.

19 people died in an outbreak of food poisoning at Stanley Road psychiatric hospital, Wakefield. An inquiry later blamed meat left out.

Three Soviet cosmonauts set endurance record in space after spending 212 days on the space station Salyut 7.

7: 1,598 dockers at the militant Tillycree docks voted to return to work.

Marshall Nikolai Ogarkov was deposed as Chief of Staff and Deputy Defence Minister of the Soviet Union. He was replaced by Marshal Sergei Akhromyov.

8: Mr Tudor Zhivkov, the Bulgarian leader, cancelled a visit to Bonn.

10: Mr Douglas Hurd, a former Home Office Minister, was appointed Secretary of State for Northern Ireland in a Cabinet reshuffle. (Mr David Young, the former Chairman of the Manpower Services Commission, was made Minister Without Portfolio.)

18: Three-week dock strike ended. Clegg Bittor, the Soviet journalist, who defected to the West in 1983, appeared in Moscow alleging that he had been kidnapped and tortured by the British Secret Service.

19: Mrs Thatcher announced that she was prepared to allow the miners' strike to continue for more than a year, adding that she would never surrender the basic principle of the Coal Board's right to close uneconomic pits.

A report admitted that the Ministry of Defence knew of the Belgian strike to continue for more than a year, adding that she would never surrender the basic principle of the Coal Board's right to close uneconomic pits.

The design of the extension of the National Gallery in Trafalgar Square, described by the Prince of Wales as a "monstrous carbuncle" was rejected by Mr Patrick Jenkin, the Secretary of State for the Environment.

The Liberal Party Assembly voted for the immediate removal of cruise missiles from British soil, against the plea of Mr David Steel.

10: Mrs Thatcher condemned Mr Kinnock and the Labour Party as "the allies of wreckers of the coal industry".

30: NUM leaders met TUC for first time since miners' strike began, in attempt to avoid split in TUC Congress.

31: The American owners of a Hong Kong company paid £43 million for the Dorchester Hotel.

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Strikes a child's play from the family lands

Mrs Gandhi

The Irish Government were reported to be furious at leaks that the authorities had been stalling in attempts to obtain a woman named by Scotland Yard as an alleged IRA bomber.

13: The Bank of England announced that it was to stop issuing £1 notes.

15: The Church of England General Synod voted for legislation on ordaining women.

16: British Rail and London Transport gave notice of fare rises.

18: Mr John Gummer, chairman of the Conservative Party, lectured Fitzgibbon and ended their meeting at Chequers with an agreement to meet again in the New Year.

Three hundred were killed in a blast at a gas complex in Mexico.

20: The Government's sale of British Telecom shares got under way with a £2,900 million issue.

21: Mr Antony Newton, Minister of State for Social Security, announced that £15 was to be deducted from the supplementary benefit pay of a striking miner's dependants.

22: Sir Geoffrey Howe announced cuts in security official representation abroad and in the BSC External Services.

27: Mr Percy Norris, the British Deputy High Commissioner in Bombay, was shot in the street. Britain and Spain agreed on the opening of the Gibraltar frontier in return for an undertaking that Britain would be prepared, for the first time, to discuss the sovereignty of the colony.

28: Last minute rush for the £3.9 billion of £10 million in shares, a limit of 800 shares per applicant was set.

1: A receiver was appointed to take control of the NUM's funds. Two miners were charged with the murder of a taxi driver who was killed after a lorry crash in South Wales.

The Metropolitan Police were called to investigate the disappearance of a log-book from the submarine HMS Conqueror.

Mr Bob Hawke regained power in the Australian general election.

3: Nearly 500 people were killed immediately and thousands were given hospital treatment when toxic gas leaked from a Union Carbide pesticide plant near Bhopal.

4: Two were killed and 77 injured when a passenger train derailed after a collision with a tanker train in Manchester.

5: Sir Keith Joseph was forced to climb down on parental contributions in higher education after a backbench revolt.

6: Hijackers of a Kuwaiti airliner killed four hostages at Tehran airport. Two days later Iranian security forces freed the remaining nine hostages.

7: The People's Daily in Peking said that many of the ideas of Marx and Engels were outdated.

11: Ten motorists were killed in a multiple collision on the M25.

13: The Government retained control of Enfield Southgate in a by-election where the Labour candidate lost his deposit.

14: Mr Mikhail Gorbachev, Adm. Sir C. John, Air Chd. Msh. Sir W. MacDonald, Col. Macleod, Lt. Gen. Sir T. McKenna, Maj. Gen. M. Nugent, Lt. Col. A. R. Ravlinson, Col. Remy, S.O.E. Gen. R. Salam, Maj. Gen. W. G. H. Smith, Maj. Gen. W. Thomas, Msh. D. Ustinov, Sir J. Vozza, Air Chd. A. Wheeler, Gen. K. Wolf, Fine and Graphic Arts: A. Adams, R. Adams, R. Rev. C. Bergen, D. P. Bly, S. S. Smith, P. de la Bruyere, R. Burn, C. Chamberlain, J. Chancellor, D. Cooper, B. Egan, J. Ernst, M. Frampton, A. Gross, Prof. J. H. Grundy, C. Hewitt, E. James, M. Jance, T. Keatinge, L. Krasner, M. Krasner, A. Krasner, P. Matthews, Msh. M. Miles, R. A. Miles, Sir R. Penrose, H. H. Rodman, S. Schatz, P. Vezalay, G. Winograd.

1: In a wave of anti-Sikh violence mobs attacked trains en route to Delhi.

2: Mr "Tim" Rowland sold Lord's to the House of Fraser for £138.5 million, thus ending a six-year battle over the future of Harrods.

Svetlana Stalin recovered her Soviet citizenship.

8: Sequesterers trying to recover the NUM's fine received £2.7 million of the union's funds to Dublin.

6: General Jaruzelski, the Polish leader, took personal control of the Interior Ministry and the police force.

7: Mr Reagan won the American election with 525 of the electoral college votes to Mr Mondale's 13 and 59 per cent of the popular vote against the Democrats' 41 per cent.

8: Chay Blyth and a crewman were plucked to safety after their trimaran capsized off Cape Horn.

9: Nicaragua called for an emergency session of the UN Security Council and mobilized its forces after it claimed there was an American invasion threat.

The week saw the biggest return to work by miners, with the NCB claiming a figure of 2,177.

The High Court said that only £3,174 of £10 million of NUM assets was in the hands of sequesterers.

11: Two Russian deserters from Afghanistan, who had been brought to Britain, returned to Russia.

1: Labour Party Conference refused to endorse Mr Kinnock's "one member, one vote" plan to change the rules on re-election of MPs.

The Bank of England masterminded a multi-million pound rescue package for one of the City's top bullion dealers after it had incurred potential losses estimated at £100 million.

2: British Aerospace and Rolls-Royce won a £600 million contract to re-equip the US Navy with Hawk trainer aircraft.

The Swiss elected their first woman Cabinet minister.

Three Soviet cosmonauts returned to Earth after a record period in space of nearly nine months.

3: The Labour Party Conference voted to condemn law-breaking by Labour councils in defiance of Government restraints.

4: It was announced that unemployment in September reached a record 3,253,640.

7: The Archbishop of Canterbury delivered outspoken criticism on the Government's handling of the miners' strike.

10: Miners' leaders reaffirmed that the NUM's fine received £2.7 million of the union's funds to Dublin.

11: Six died and 18 were injured when a rush-hour commuter train collided with a diesel freighter at Wembley.

Mr Emanuel Shinwell was 100. An IRA bomb at the Grand Hotel in Brighton killed three and injured 32.

Dr Cesar Milstein of the Medical Research Council's Laboratory of Molecular Biology won the Nobel Prize for Medicine, sharing it with Professor Niels Kaj Jerne and Dr Georges Koehler of Germany.

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THE TIMES DIARY

Souvenir issue

Local papers in the country's mining regions, such as the *Mansfield Chronicle* and *Advertiser* in Nottingham, are currently running advertisements that read "Working Miners - a beautifully illustrated commemorative certificate of courage, which will acquire financial value - a family heirloom. Send £2.50 cheque or postal order". However, I can disclose that working miners receive in return a tatty photostat, stating baldly "You worked during the 1984 dispute while 90 per cent of the NUM were on strike". The organization to which unwitting miners send for their certificate, is I am told, a cover organization for the NUM; the cash goes straight to strike funds and the names and addresses are duly logged. David English, a member of the Nottingham committee, tells me: "Beauty is in the eye of the beholder. The outfit couldn't use the word 'scab' on the certificates because it would contravene the Trades Description Act."

BARRY FANTONI



"Obviously an attempt to lure more striking miners"

Lost and found

BBC-TV's *Holiday* programme returned yesterday with a competition offering a luxury Caribbean holiday as the first prize. The first clue - highlighted in the Christmas issue of *Radio Times* - is "Twin peaks called Pitons pierce the sky and on this island in the Caribbean Sea there is a volcano into which a man may drive". All suitably obscure, and made no easier by the mock *Treasure Island* jargon. But hang on: contestants need only tune in to the rival holiday programme, *Wish You Were Here*, on Thames TV on Wednesday. Its main feature is on St Lucia, a Caribbean island with twin peaks called Pitons and a drive-in volcano.

Drawing a blank

To end the final Diary of 1984, I asked some political friends to recount a story that was missed out in the Christmas issue. First, Kenneth Warren (Tory, Hastings and Rye): "As chairman of the Commons committee that examines the Post Office, I received a Christmas card featuring a blow-up of a 13p stamp from the Post Office chairman, Ronald Dearing. The card arrived late - with a demand for 23p excess payment."

Warsaw Tact

George Robertson (Lab, Hamilton): "At a government reception recently for a visiting East European dignitary, I was asked who I was by the dignitary's deputy. I said I was an Opposition foreign affairs spokesman, and added 'but you don't have that sort of post in your country'. The official looked round, laughed and replied, 'We certainly have opposition... but no spokesmen.'"

Saying double

John Taylor (Ulster Unionist, Strangford), recalling the introduction by Nicholas Scott, Minister at the Northern Ireland Office, of the Elections Northern Ireland Bill to the House: "Throughout the evening the minister related the degree of double voting, which was grossly overstated at being 20 per cent of votes cast. However, when the first division was called, I called for an amendment by the Ulster Unionist MPs that the Bill be delayed for a further six months - Nicholas Scott was held back by a Member who spoke to him. He then rushed into the Aye lobby and voted for the amendment against his own Bill. Returning to the chamber, he realized his mistake, and promptly entered the No lobby - thus voting twice. *Hansard* was corrected before publication."

Field day

David Amess (Tory, Basildon): "The day after my election I stood in an open-top bus using a loud-hailer to thank all and sundry for putting me into Parliament for the first time. The atmosphere was so euphoric that on passing a herd of cows I said loudly 'I should like to thank the cows of Bowes Gifford for voting Conservative'. Chuckling, I turned to face the road, only to see four or five very Conservative-looking ladies staring directly at me. They were not amused."

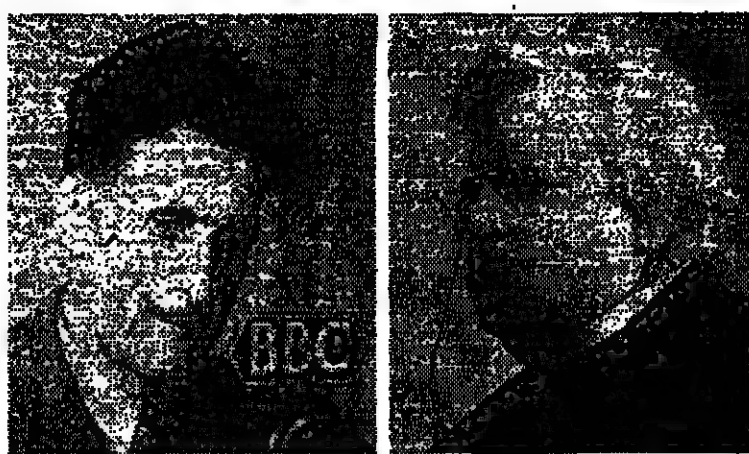
Out of print

A last word from Denis Thatcher, whom I asked to contribute an authentic Dear Bill letter. "I never write anything for publication," he wrote back, sending PHS his good wishes for the New Year. And indeed, good wishes to you all. PIP.

PHS

Bernard Levin: the way we live now

1985, year of the fanatic



A long-standing terror made its boldest advance in 1984 - not Orwell's Thought Police but Chesterton's fearsome individual, the Single Issue Fanatic. Below, fanaticism in action - animal liberation and the consuming hatred bred by the coal strike



I find that throughout the whole of Orwell's Year, I have made no mention of 1984 and its dread associations. No doubt my readers are as relieved as I am surprised, but on the very last day of this ill-omened span, they will surely pardon me if, in developing a theme that has been ringing in my head for some time, I touch once or twice upon matters which would not have been quite so symbolically apposite in 1983. Let us ring up the curtain on my subject with Chesterton's *The Horrible History of Jones*:

Jones had a dog; it had a chain; Not often worn, not causing pain; But, as the IKL had passed Their "Unleashed Cousins Act" at last.

Inspectors took the chain away; Whereat the canine barked "hurray!"

And we might as well begin with animals. When, a month or two ago, a group, claiming, not very plausibly, to be concerned for the welfare of animals announced that they had put poison in Mars Bars on the shelves of supermarkets, one of the television news bulletins carried an interview with a man who claimed to be a spokesman for such a group; he denied having anything to do with the Mars Bars affair (the gang which did it announced later that they had not in fact poisoned the sweets, and for the moment at any rate wanted only to give a warning of what they might do next time if Messrs Mars continued to displease them), but made clear that he and his colleagues thought that virtually any action, let alone threat, was justified in the struggle they imagined they were waging.

He was, it has to be said, a pathetic-looking creature; the very dogs he thought he cared so much about would have snarled at him as he passed by. He gave the impression that he had been computer-programmed with every expression and phrase in *Rogers* (particularly the clichés) referring to animals and their treatment by mankind, and as soon as the interviewer pressed the appropriate key, they all came pouring out.

It was obvious that his animal campaigning was the only thing of any interest or meaning in his life; indeed, it plainly was his life, and since everything else around him was dissolved in his one testing-acid, it followed that the interests and opinions, and even safety, of those who disagreed with him were of no more account than those worldly concerns he had long since renounced, and could be no less easily disposed of.

I have written more than once about those whose love of animals is in truth a hatred of human beings, and I do not intend to go over that same ground today. But presumably even the most hate-crazed animal liberationist, as he smashes up laboratory equipment or chases dangerous beasts out of their pens, occasionally stops to think how he started and what the reason was: surely somewhere in his muddled brain there was originally a feeling that it is wrong to ill-treat animals.

At which, of course, the *SPU* (Whose Nervous Motorists' Bill was forced to give the dog in charge For being Audibly at Large...

Let us now turn - the connection between the instances I relate will become clear in time, I assure you - to Mrs Victoria Gillick, who a few days ago won, in the Court of Appeal, her case against the medical dispensation of contraceptive pills to girls under 16 years of age without their parents' knowledge. Now on the rights and wrongs of such action by doctors I have expressed no public view, and I shall express none now; what interests me is not Mrs Gillick's legal action, but what has happened to her and her family since she began it. She has revealed that they have suffered physical and verbal attacks, that some of her children have been kicked and punched in the street, that gangs have tried to kick down their front door nearly every night, that she has had to take two of her children away from their school because of the bullying they were being subjected to, and that she has received obscene telephone calls and hate mail.

The most rudimentary standards of civilized behaviour swept away

Presumably, too, those who wish girls under the age of consent to be provided confidentially with contraceptives must think, or at least must once have thought, that such action is wise and right, and for all I know it may be; but as Madame de Deffand said in a rather different context, it is only the first step that is difficult, for if you begin by thinking that very young girls should be protected by contraception given in secret against becoming pregnant, and end by trying to kick down the door of someone who holds a contrary view, something decidedly odd must have happened to you on the journey in between. And what has happened seems to me very similar to what affects the animal liberationists: both groups have allowed one dominant belief to grow so large in their minds that not only do other, lesser, beliefs vanish beneath its shadow, but the most rudimentary standards of civilized behaviour are swept away. Whatever view may be taken of cruelty to animals or infant contraception, and however passionately the view may be held, it is not passing strange for some to threaten, abuse and ultimately assault those who do not share it?

None, you will say, were now annoyed.

Save haply Jones - the yard was void.

But something being in the lease About "alarms to aid police". The *USU* annexed the yard For having no sufficient guard...

Urgent: NUJ members

This is another reminder that the election for a new editor of the union's paper, *The Journalist*, is in progress, and ballot-papers must be returned by January 14 at latest. (The 3,000 or so members of the London Freelance branch have got their ballot-papers late, if at all; the branch did not send them out until after the last day of Christmas posting. If you still have not received yours, complain at once, not to the

branch but to the General Secretary.) Those who want the paper to be the true voice of the majority of the union's members, and therefore to be run on moderate and unfanatical lines in the interests of the union as a whole, are urged (remember you do not vote with an X but with numbers) to put 1 for PATERSON, 2 for TURNER, and nothing for either of the other two candidates.

most recent play, *Benefactors*; he has been engaged on a campaign concerning a local authority and planning permission, and when it is over he looks back over his side's methods:

"But the sheer pleasure of it! We sprayed walls two storeys high - 'Vandals Out!' We shouted Council meetings down - 'Democracy now!' We didn't have to worry about being fair or truthful or tidy. That was the great liberation. Fairness and tidiness and truth are for people who've got what they want already. We had nothing we could do anything."

Note particularly the first words and the last: the sheer pleasure of it... we could do anything. The Single Issue Fanatic, whether he knows it or not, is after power, and he seeks it because of the horrible joy he will have when he gets it - the joy of making other people do as he tells them.

You know the *ETST*'s views Are stronger than the *TTU*'s And soon (as one may say) took wing The Arms, though not the Man, I sing...

Is my claim an exaggeration? If you think so, look back to the thousand words ago. Would anyone not convinced, in his monomaniacal fanaticism, that he can indeed "do anything" tell the world that he has put poison in sweets and then threaten that he would actually do so next time? Would anyone not blinded by a belief held to the edge of madness, and possibly over abuse and assault Mrs Gillick and her children? Would anyone whose Single Issue Fanaticism had not, in a very real sense, dehumanized him, do what was done to the miner who went to work?

I do not think so. And yet, so far from understanding why others would see people who could do such things as evil, the perpetrators would be amazed and surprised and resentful at the thought. Surely it is good to stand up for ill-treated animals? Surely it is right to seek to help troubled adolescents? Surely it is admirable to stand beside your workmates rather than against them?

Yes, but if that is the only cause you are interested in, if it fills your life, waking and sleeping, if you are absolutely determined that nothing matters except making others see it the way you see it - why, then, you are a Single Issue Fanatic, and as sure as twice two make five, you will end up believing that you may properly do anything to bring about what you desire.

To see him slitting limblimb there Was more than the *KK* could bear. In merry silence with all speed That mouth there are no hands to feed.

What cruel sentimentalism, O Jones, would doom thee to exist Clinging to selfish Selfhood yet Weak and Such reasoning might upset

The Pump Act, and the accumulation Of all constructive legislation. Let us construct you up a bit - The head fell off when it was hit: Then words did rise and honest

And four Commissioners sat about Whether the slash that left him dead

Cut off his body or his head...

These were not, it is true, the dangers that Orwell foresaw. But I cannot help feeling that he would recognize them, and think them as deadly as those he depicted, and perhaps more so. The Single Issue Fanatic is the terror that walketh by night, and is far more difficult to see and to combat. Yet he must be combated, and beaten, or we shall all, in one way or another, suffer the same fate as Jones.

An author in the *Isle of Wight* Observed with unconcealed delight A land of old and new renown Where Freedom slowly broadened

From precedent to precedent - And this, I think, was what he meant.

(G.K. Chesterton, *Collected Poems*, Methuen.)

The Chinese have long had the custom of designating their calendar with the Year of the Dragon, or of the Dog, or the Pig. I think we need another sort of year, a year in which the Single Issue Fanatic is faced and fought - by all of us, everywhere, at whatever point he may attack. Come! let us make 1985 Cakes and Ale Year.

Ring out the new, ring in the old Enough of condoning wickedness and excusing criminality! Enough of these harbingers of the Nanny State! Enough of those who would tie our hands lest we scratch ourselves, and our feet lest we trip, and our tongues lest we say something that is not on the List of Things it is Proper to be said! 1984 has come, and in a few hours will be gone. We did not fall into the tyrannous and terrible net of Big Brother in the course of it, but we did fall, by stealth not conquest, a little further into the hands of the Single Issue Fanatics. In Cakes and Ale Year, we shall start the process of breaking their grip, of taking back our right to decide what is good for us, of resisting the thieves who would steal from us more of our liberties, of declaring that a cause which is promoted by violence instead of reason is a bad cause, of saying no quietly though others are screaming yes, and of eating many cakes and drinking much ale.

We shall march to the beat of *Liberty Bell*, our banners shall bear the emblem of a cocked snook, and our prayers will be offered to St Peter of Alcantara, because he is the patron saint of watchmen, which is what we are. And our New Year's Resolution - all together now - shall be to ensure that when 1985 comes to an end, this country will be recognizably more free than when it began. Now who will stand on either hand, and keep the bridge with me?

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Anne Sofer

Let every girl fly high

"You're rushing to get ready for a disco and find your jeans need ironing. Your family are watching TV. Do you (a) ask your mum/sister to iron them, (b) ask your dad/brother to iron them or (c) iron them yourself and be late?"

This is a question in the quiz "What's your score on the Sexistometer?" contained in an entertaining pack of anti-sexist activities compiled for use in ILEA schools. On this particular question you score two marks for (c), one for (b) and none for (a). If your score on all the questions is zero, you are advised "You are really sexist and should immediately seek help - see your tutor!"

Not all the scoring is so predictable. Another question is "There is a boy or girl in your class who you like. Would you (a) ask your friend to ask them to go out with you, (b) go up and ask them yourself, or (c) wait for them to ask you?" For boys, (b) and (c) both score 2, and (a) scores 0. But for girls, (c) scores 0, (b) 2 and (a) 1. I still haven't worked that out, but no doubt the scoring is intended to be as much of a discussion-provoker as the question itself.

All of this is part of an exercise to change attitudes and, in particular, to help girls be more assertive and self-confident, about their educational potential, to stop writing themselves off as mere future wives and mothers.

It is an uphill struggle. Consider, for instance, the following fragment of a radio programme I recently heard. The disc jockey Gary Davies is carrying on a breezy conversation with a young mother at home who wants to hear a particular Elton John number. "Tell me how you met your husband." "Oh, that was while I was studying in Manchester." "And what were you studying?" "Coy noises, shy giggles." "No, you mustn't ask me." "Oh, go on, give us a clue at least." "Well, it begins with A. E. but I really can't say it, it's a terrible conversation stopper." After more giggles and silly guesses, she relents. "Alright then, it's aeroplanes engineering." Gary rides over his own double-take with professional aplomb and steers the conversation back to her husband, her little girl, Elton John.

The real, hard moral of that story is that it is easier to create female aeroplanes engineers than it is to change attitudes; or rather, that the first may come before the second.

The issue of teachers attempting to change social attitudes is fraught with difficulty. For a start, it can stir up fears of "indoctrination", either genuine or (more frequently) artificially induced for political purposes. Then there is the stubborn fact reinforced by every available piece

of research, that parents and peer-group are a far stronger influence on attitudes than teachers are. Indeed, for the most alienated groups - who may also be the most prone to sexual stereotyping - teacher-promoted "awareness campaigns" may be positively counter-productive.

Ironically from the point of view of the current campaign, in many ways girls get more out of the education system than boys. Fewer play truant and more stay on after 16. They do better in examinations and are less likely to be assessed as educationally sub-normal or maladjusted. And all that, despite (or because of?) the fact that they get observably less attention from their teachers. Even in the "boys' subjects", such as physics and design technology, (though not maths) once they have embarked on the courses girls are likely to get higher grades than boys. Whether it is the result of innate superiority or merely conditioned docility and conscientiousness, their relatively short period of access to secondary education has been a huge success story. Seen the other way, these facts point to the serious educational failures of boys.

What girls as a group seem to lack is academic ambition and an eye to the main chance in career subjects. They opt out of technical subjects and the "hard" sciences; they have a weakness for soft options where high marks will make them feel secure.

This is something the education system can do something about. It is astonishing that after a decade of bemoaning the fact that so few women find their way into science and engineering, we still allow crucial choices of course - affecting subsequent life chances - to be made by boys and girls at the age of 13 when they are, with the onset of puberty, the most likely to be strongly motivated by the desire to identify with "masculine" or "feminine" roles. If, following the practice of practically every comparable country, we were to insist on the study of the physical sciences and technical subjects up to the school leaving age for both sexes, girls' career prospects would be greatly improved in one bound.

And if, following that, a levels were to be transformed so that all students studied across the arts-science divide, we would no longer be grappling with the situation where the vast majority of women had no prospect of embarking on a scientific career. Realistic expectations would be revolutionized - and attitudes would surely follow.

"Changing hearts and minds" has become a political cliché. It disguises the fact that other changes are sometimes more effective and appropriate.

The author is SDP member of the GLC/ILEA for St Pancras North.

Alan Brownjohn

Breaks that could break the habit

Crossing to Scandinavia on holiday last August, I was browsing through one of those tourist guides which you often discover in your cabin. Among the listed delights of Denmark, together with the shops and restaurants, the churches, the museums, the castle at Elsinore and the Little Mermaid in Copenhagen harbour, was "good, commercial-free television".

Reading that item gave me first a small shock of surprise, and then one of pleasure. It was genuine, surprising, after 20-odd years of getting used to commercials on our own television screens, to find another country in the western world actually boasting about not having them. This was the sort of boast we used to make in Britain before the Television Act of 1954, to encourage the admiration and envy which visiting Americans showed for our broadcasting system.

Ever since the arrival of commercial television in 1955 (after the success of one of the most systematic and ruthless pressure-campaigns in British political history) there has been a tacit bipartisan acknowledgement that not all television should be required to finance itself through advertising. Commercialization has gone far enough if it simply provides, under the careful supervision of the IBA, healthy competition for the non-commercial public corporation.

But now things appear to be changing. There is a new campaign to bring advertising to BBC television, and those who advocated choice when the BBC monopoly of the airways was to be broken are those who are now seeking to remove it. If they get their way there will no longer be the liberty to choose between watching programmes interrupted by advertising and watching programmes which are not.

Is this liberty important, or is it a mere detail? I think it is important, for both the viewers and the broadcasters. There is something dismaying about even the most careful of commercial interruptions when one is held by a programme. We only stifle the dismay because we know it is an inescapable condition of watching certain channels. Everyone has a horror story about inappropriate commercials. Mine concerns a programme on ITV about the tragic life and remarkable achievement of the poet Sylvia Plath, portrayed by Judi Dench, whose electric performance was dispersed by a commercial for face powder.

We may appreciate the panache and ingenuity of the commercials, even if it is now rather a stale tactic to say that they are better than the programmes. But we ought to be guaranteed a freedom to watch some television without them.

If the present campaign to bring advertising to the BBC gathers

momentum, it will no doubt be argued that the Corporation will only require a little inoffensive advertising to keep the licence fee steady, and that good taste, and a natural British regard for high standards will keep the whole process very discreet and tactful, with no ill-effect on the quality of programmes. After all, there was no disastrous collapse of morals last time.

To the first argument one can only say that the famous baby in the arms of the housemaid was indeed only a little one, but it was going to grow. Commercials could be cleverly kept away at first from schools programmes, Shakespeare and opera. But the pressure to raise the quantity of BBC advertising to the level of that screened by ITV would inevitably increase. An experiment proved to be a sort of success. A commercialized BBC would be only human if it eventually grabbed all the advertising it could get.

We owe the relative tact and unobtrusiveness of present advertising to the apprehension that its early enemies were going to monitor it, like barrows, and make invidious comparisons with the standards of the BBC, because a non-commercial BBC was still there to compare it with. If the competition of a non-commercial BBC were now to be taken away, the last reason for being shamed into maintaining the quality of programmes would disappear substantially with it. In the long term this would not be good for ITV.

Those in favour of advertising have to prove either that the perpetual praise of sweets, deodorants and building societies actually enhances the pleasure and interest of the programmes, or makes so little difference that (unlike the Danes) we can put up with it. They also have to tell us how - as the advertisements for the same products begin to appear on all four channels - they would counteract the drift towards a sameness of presentation and content which would make television more boring and increase the incentive to turn off.

Given the choice of watching material of comparable interest on rival channels I prefer, for reasons of simple comfort and convenience, to watch the channels which show no advertising. At the moment this choice still exists, and I would like to have it in the future. If it were to be removed I suspect that I and many others would be voting with our remote control switches in favour of some other activity.

Reaching for a video, perhaps, or looking out a new novel or volume of verse. That might be a happy outcome of commercializing all the television channels. But it would not be the one the advertising lobbyists intended.

Anne Suter
Every girl
fly high



P.O. Box 7, 200 Gray's Inn Road, London WC1X 8EZ. Telephone: 01-837 1234

INDIA VOTES FOR UNITY

Over the last few elections the verdict of the Indian people has been distinguished by its sheer decisiveness. It has shown no half measures or any hesitation. For instance, in 1971 Mrs Gandhi was given a two-thirds majority. In 1977 it was the opposition's turn. Then in 1980 Mrs Gandhi was recalled and the same majority simply changed hands. And now in 1984 it has been bestowed on Rajiv Gandhi.

However this time the Indian people have given their prime minister and ruling party a mandate which has exceeded all others. Congress (I) have become the first party since independence in 1947 to secure over half the polled votes. And never before has any prime minister won more than three quarters of the seats contested. As an electoral performance, this result outclasses the historic feats achieved earlier by Mr Gandhi's mother, Indira, in the heady 1970s and his grandfather, Jawahar Lal Nehru, in the immediate euphoria of independence. The consequence is to make Rajiv Gandhi potentially more popular and powerful than any previous prime minister.

It is a verdict simultaneously in favour of both continuity and change. At the end of a year that has seen the Sikh crisis erupt, a prime minister assassinated and the country collapse into communal chaos, Indians believe themselves to be under threat. Secessionist forces were able to hold the state to ransom. The unity of the nation was suddenly in question. In Indian eyes, therefore, there was a need for the continuation

of strong central authority. Only a stable and secure government in Delhi would contain the crisis they perceived about them. By giving Rajiv Gandhi this massive support they have tried to ensure that his new government has the capacity to do just that.

Yet, at the same time this vote was also a call for change. Tired of the old pre-independence generation of politicians, the Indian electorate have long been looking for something new. It was Rajiv Gandhi's good fortune that in 1984 he came to symbolise this. For, as little was known of him, he was reconstructed by the Indian voters in the image they wished him to have. They saw in him a new future and they have invested in him their own hopes of realising it.

Whilst therefore this twin appeal of Rajiv Gandhi proved an irresistible electoral platform, in contrast the Opposition were divided, debilitated and disliked. During this election a formidable realignment of political forces in India appears to have taken place. From Congress (I)'s point of view the significant shift is in the arithmetic of Indian elections. Up to now the accepted wisdom was that the ruling party tended to win when faced by the customarily split opposition. But, in the rare case where the opposition was united, it lost. In 1984 that has been disproved. Regardless of the character of the opposition it faced, the party stormed through to victory. What this suggests is that the traditional concept of politics in India as being determined by caste blocks or religious groups

must now surely give way to a more up to date picture of a relatively homogeneous and unified electorate where waves of public opinion tend to sweep more uniformly across the whole country.

Throughout the nation, the regional vote has diminished in this election. Except in the southern state of Andhra Pradesh, where special circumstances prevail following Mrs Gandhi's abortive coup to oust the incumbent chief minister in August, the votes of local parties have either scarcely fallen or completely collapsed. This is evidence that large sections of the nation have turned away from linguistic or cultural parochialism and towards a greater pan-Indian political identity.

Of course what underlies these political realignments and the calls for continuity and change is the enormous emotion of hope. The Indian voter has placed his faith in Rajiv Gandhi after all other political channels led into darkness. It is a heavy weight on his inexperienced prime minister's shoulders. How he handles it will ultimately determine both his own and India's future. If his government can live up to its promise a new era in Indian politics could today be starting with the Congress party possibly assured the same majority in future elections. But if it does not, disillusion is bound to set in swiftly and the electorate will undoubtedly swing away. What choice it might then make in its frustration and bitterness could be very unpleasant indeed.

LIBYA AND THE RELIGIOUS DIMENSION

The Church of England predictably had no luck with its attempt to come between the warring parties in the miners' strike. There may be some consolation coming to it now if the church's efforts to free the Britons held in Libya can be carried through to a successful conclusion. It would be a more appropriate success too, as the pastoral welfare of individuals is more obviously the church's business than the settlement of essentially political conflicts. Indeed Mr Terry Waite, the Archbishop of Canterbury's emissary to the Libyans, has had the paradoxical advantage of being unable to offer them any sort of deal precisely because the church is without leverage on the matter of Libyans awaiting trial in Britain. There was plenty of evidence he could offer Colonel Gaddafi that the British government and the Church of England are not in each other's pocket. This set him free to concentrate on the humanitarian nature of his mission, and to bring to bear the moral pressure. The political weakness of his position has added to its spiritual strength, and he has found an opening.

Colonel Gaddafi has not only said he will facilitate the release of the Britons held; he has

expressed some belated dismay at the killing of WPC Yvonne Fletcher by a "madman" - his words - outside the Libyan People's Bureau. Relations between Libya and Britain will not have been restored at a stroke by this remark, but it is a beginning, and it will have been noted. Mr Waite clearly has diplomatic skills of a rare order, given the most unpromising reception Colonel Gaddafi gave his mission at its start. Yet "being diplomatic", as that is commonly understood, is apparently not his style. Both in Libya and on his return he has spoken straight, and spoken sharply. Colonel Gaddafi is not a word-mincer either. The outspoken approach seems to appeal to him too, for he has let himself be moved by it. The prospect of Mr Waite securing the freedom of the captive Britons would not have been appetizing, if it had been done by ingratiating and flattery. As when Mr Waite brought the British missionaries out of Iran four years ago, it was a blend of courtesy and plain speaking which had proved persuasive to the Islamic mind, together with an appeal to common spiritual values. And by all accounts Colonel Gaddafi enjoys a good discussion of religion.

One may not like his politics at all, or his person much; but Colonel Gaddafi (like many another ruler exercising great personal power) is a man who sees himself as under the judgement of God. This leads in many strange directions, highly disagreeable to Libya's North African neighbours and to Western powers who try to do business with him; disagreeable also to a section of his own population. But it leaves him open to the moral argument, not least in this case, that a ruler has a duty towards the stranger in his midst. Islam teaches that there is a particular duty towards a Christian or Jewish stranger. Mr Waite, both by his credentials as Dr Runcie's spokesman and by his efforts for the spiritual welfare of the four trapped Britons at Christmas time, has turned their detention into a religious issue on which basis it can be solved, rather than a political issue between states on which basis it looked hopeless. Religion is sadly more often a cause of conflict in the world than a means for resolving it; the unlikely combination of Colonel Gaddafi, Mr Waite, and the Archbishop of Canterbury has unexpectedly shown that it must not always be so.

A GRACIOUS EXIT NEEDED

This was the first Christmas in Nigeria's history, wrote a Lagos columnist the other day, "when so many representatives of an entire generation of powerful and influential men will be singing their carols in jail". Therein lies the main achievement of the year of military rule that began with the coup of December 31, 1983.

The idea of accountability has been reborn. A spectacularly corrupt regime was overthrown; also overthrown was the "revised law" (to quote the columnist in the Lagos *Guardian* again) that if you belonged to the right class in society "your crimes may be visited on your property and your bank account, but never on your person".

The regime of General Muhammadu Buhari is conducting a capital-letter War Against Indiscipline, but more important than its propaganda have been its actions. A price has had to be paid: there are fundamental criticisms and some doubts about the future; but if the incarceration of hundreds of rich politicians has convinced a generation that it is a mistake to salt away millions from public funds, then General Buhari has undoubtedly done some service to his state.

Inevitably, part of the price is an immediate loss of personal rights. And while some degree of ruthlessness was necessary, there are valid criticisms: the trials should not be in secret; 21 years in prison is too high a minimum sentence for corruption; there should be some possibility of judicial appeal (sentences are subject to confirmation or alteration only by the Supreme Military Council). The process is also proving unduly slow. After

12 months decisions should be possible on such notable detained people as the former President and Vice-President, the former Governor of Lagos State, and many more.

It is to be expected in an exercise of almost arbitrary power that there should be allegations of bias and regional and political prejudice. Left-wing Nigerians, for instance, are convinced that the former Governor of Kaduna, Balarabe Musa, is being kept in prison more because of his socialism than because of alleged malfeasance; and the many friends of Tai Solarin, headmaster and controversialist, find it impossible to believe that he could be guilty of corruption or anything worse than having awkward opinions.

The point that becomes clearer as time passes is that Nigerians have the right to demand freedom from arbitrary arrest and imprisonment without due process. It is necessary for justice to be seen to be done, otherwise wrong conclusions will be drawn: not that corruption is evil, but that it is a mistake to be unsuccessfully corrupt. (There is an international dimension too: unfair trials make it impossible for Britain and other countries to contemplate deporting the fugitive politicians.)

General Buhari came to power on a wave of popular support; the military were hailed as saviours. But that popularity has waned. It is partly a matter of bad public relations. Attempts to stifle criticism by harsh measures against the Press have not helped. More important has been the failure of the military to deal with Nigeria's economic problems. This is apparent in the

mounting inflation, unemployment and shortages of almost everything. The causes are complex, but one point is worth mentioning. For years the real value of the currency, the naira, has been drifting away from its official value: in a Lagos bank a pound sterling will buy just over one naira; on the street corner it will fetch between five and six naira. The distortions this causes are serious - would-be exporters and investors are discouraged and agricultural producers handicapped. By refusing to think of devaluation, the Buhari government has deprived itself of IMF help as well as causing internal hemorrhaging; it has also (most ironically) for a government dedicated to a War Against Indiscipline ensured that black marketers, currency dealers, smugglers and other crooks, while they stay out of jail, reap huge rewards.

Military rulers, like music-hall comedians, find it difficult to leave the stage. But General Buhari and his colleagues will be doing their state an even greater service if they begin now to think of an exit line. Nigerians, in addition to a right to freedom from arbitrary arrest, have a right to participation in their government. How exactly this should be done is difficult. Westminster and American models of democracy have not travelled well. It is obviously something for Nigerians to decide: the first step will be General Buhari announcing his readiness to lead his men back to the barracks. Twelve months after being rescued from the dragon, a maiden has the right to ask the gallant knight what his intentions are.

Young offenders as special case

From Lady Faithfull
Sir, Our prisons are full; we are building more of them at great cost and the crime rate is not diminishing.

While realistically coping with our adult crime in the here and now, should we not, as a country, seek to deal more effectively with our juvenile crime? Over the years this should, I suggest, diminish our adult crime rate.

As a start, should there not be an amendment to the Prosecution Offences Bill whereby there should be special provision for juvenile defendants within the new crime prosecution service?

The experience of the Scottish "reporter" system since 1968 has shown the value of a separate prosecution service which can deal more sensitively, imaginatively and less formally approach to younger and less mature defendants.

Failing the establishment of a separate service, some degree of specialisation within the Crown prosecution service is desirable. It is significant that other parts of the criminal justice and penal systems accept the desirability of specialisation in work with juveniles (as instanced by the existence of police juvenile bureaux, juvenile courts, junior attendance centres and junior detention centres) and the case for such specialisation among prosecution personnel is no less strong.

Yours faithfully,
LUCY FAITHFULL
303 Woodstock Road,
Oxford,
December 21.

From Mrs P. E. Phillips
Sir, Mr John Rea Price's letter (December 6) illustrates very clearly the lack of clear thought by the Government over how the nation deals with the needs of children within the courts, whether as a result of anti-social behaviour, or as a result of other family problems, such as divorce, custody etc.

We now therefore have proposals for a national prosecuting system which apparently makes no concessions to the needs of children and young people, whilst at the same time the Department of Health and Social Security is conducting a review of child care law, and the Lord Chancellor's Department is considering the feasibility of family courts.

Of these, the work on family courts is subject to the longest timetable. However, it is the view of the Association of County Councils and of many other organisations interested in this field that the establishment of a family court should be agreed by the Government as a matter of priority, and that all other issues concerning children and young people caught up in the legal system should be considered in that light.

Yours faithfully,
P. E. PHILLIPS, Chairman,
Social Services Committee,
Association of County Councils,
Eaton House,
66a Eaton Square, SW1,
December 12.

Tax on pensions

From Mr S. W. Nash
Sir, Rumours that lump-sum payments might be taxed met with much unreasoned opposition.

Contributions to occupational pensions are tax-deductible and the pensions are, therefore, legitimately subject to tax: it is illogical that the alternative lump sum should be treated differently.

The reverse is the case with the state pension. National insurance contributions are paid out of fully taxed income and there is no justification for the further double-taxation of the state pension.

Moreover if the state pension were properly exempt from tax our income tax system would be greatly simplified.

No longer would there be any need for special codes for pensioners or for the anomalous and controversial age allowance.

Yours faithfully,
S. W. NASH,
190 King George V Avenue
Cardiff,
South Glamorgan,
December 17.

Flipping one's lid

From Professor Douglas Johnson
Sir, Mr Bullen (December 27) enquires how he should greet a lady when wearing a beret. He should always wear the beret so that the brim, at its lowest point, rests one and a half inches above the left eyebrow.

For the ceremony of greeting, the brim should be pushed upwards one inch. This should be done with the left hand, c'est celle du coeur.

Yours truly,
DOUGLAS JOHNSON,
29 Rudall Crescent, NW3,
December 27.

VAT on publications

From Mrs Peter Murray
Sir, We have heard a lot about the disastrous effect VAT, particularly at the high level of 15 per cent, would have on publishing, selling, and buying of books, and particularly on the publishing of serious and learned works with short print runs. The disastrous effect on libraries - public, university, learned societies and the like - has also been predicted. What would it mean to a private library?

My husband and I left university life so as to spend the remainder of our working years completing work begun or projected, but this requires that we maintain our library with a steady acquisition of new books - and, as everyone knows, books on

Pat on the back for British scientists

From the Ambassador of Sweden
Sir, Is Britain scientifically no longer in the first division? Is it true, as is often said, that Britain is spending less than many other countries on key areas of research, falling behind countries like Japan and the Federal Republic of Germany - even that British science is "in something of a mess", as is claimed in your review (November 13) of a recent BBC 2 programme?

Perhaps I may be excused if I disregard for a moment the golden rule for a diplomat to confine his opinions to dispatches to his Government. But what I want to draw attention to are cold statistics (with, admittedly, some personal comments), statistics that I have not seen quoted in the British debate and that give a rather comforting picture of the actual state of affairs of British science, or at least some important sectors of British science.

The statistics I have in mind reflect the national distribution of the most prestigious scientific award, the Nobel prizes in the three disciplines physics, chemistry, and medicine (or "physiology or medicine", as it is called in Mr Nobel's last will and testament). I realize, of course, that in some cases the nationality may be open to discussion. What about a scientist who, though formally retaining his original citizenship, has spent his entire professional life abroad? I have used what must be the best source, to wit a list published by the Nobel Foundation itself.

Stansted report

From Mr Don Turner
Sir, The inspector's report on Stansted should have convinced Lady Burton of Coventry (December 20) that, like it or not, the possibility of a second runway at Gatwick no longer exists. The inspector noted that the Government had abandoned the safeguarding of the line of the second runway there in 1971 and endorsed the grounds for its rejection.

The inspector also assessed Heathrow's runway capacity at about 300,000 air transport movements. This equates with figures given by the Civil Aviation Authority, who also add that by the 1990s the higher proportion of heavy aircraft in service will reduce the figure to between 285,000 and

Prescription of drugs

From the Director of the College of Health
Sir, Your proposal, "Prescribing propaganda" (December 13), that the Government would do well to appoint a genuinely independent committee to consider the currently much vexed question of NHS drug prescribing is welcome.

While the medical profession battles to preserve its clinical freedom, the pharmaceutical industry gets qualms about making more of its profits from the poor and the elderly, and the Government would like to save £100 million a year, can I put forward for discussion an idea that could satisfy at least two of the three parties aforesaid and save money for some of us consumers who are also keen to see a stop to unnecessarily expensive prescribing habits?

Lesson from Ulster

From Sir Patrick Macrory
Sir, Mr Latham-Koenig reminds us (December 17) of Alexis de Tocqueville's perceptive comment that "the most dangerous moment for a bad government is usually the one when it starts to introduce reforms".

As he says, the dictum applies not only to the French Revolution, which Tocqueville had in mind. It has always seemed to me to be particularly applicable to the well-meant attempts of the Stormont Government of Northern Ireland, in the late 1960s, to redress the grievances, genuine but not absolutely intolerable, of its Nationalist minority.

Whenever an inch was granted an ell was demanded and those who let out of its bottle the evil djinn of violence which has ever since refused to go back, those well-intentioned members of the Northern Ireland Civil Rights Association

Limiting speed

From Dr Peter E. Morris
Sir, I share Michael Smith's surprise, in his letter of December 20, that the main argument for increasing the speed limit on motorways to 80 mph is that the present limit is ignored by many drivers.

The reasons for the existence of a law that is frequently broken need to be examined. However, these reasons may be good ones and, if so, the consequence should be to increase the probability and, perhaps, the intensity of punishment. Frequent breaches of a law are not, in themselves, grounds for its abolition.

One problem with increases in speed limits is that it is natural for drivers to think that the effects of increasing their speed are linear, and

the history of art are always in the top price bracket.

The £50 book is now far from a rarity, and the problem is even more acute when a series, or corpus, is involved, where the price rises steeply with each succeeding volume. And what if the Chancellor includes antiquarian books, the prices of which are already frequently astronomical?

Just for an example, our book bills last year were £1,385. VAT on this would mean £239 at 18 per cent, £77 at 20 per cent, according to the level of the publisher's "pass-on-the-overheads" calculation. Cutting back on purchases - the probable course - would mean that we ceased to buy many of the books which already have difficulty in finding a publisher.

Consequences of Gillick ruling

From the Chief Rabbi
Sir, Having signed, together with other national religious leaders, a statement in support of Mrs Gillick's case against the DHSS guidelines permitting doctors to prescribe contraception to girls under 16, even without their parents' knowledge or consent, I naturally applaud the judgement of the Court of Appeal.

I welcome this important decision for two quite distinct reasons. The "professional guidance" by the General Medical Council, endorsed by the BMA, had stated: "If the patient (under the age of 16) refuses to allow a parent to be told, the doctor must observe the rule of professional secrecy in his management of the case". In other words, an conflict between parents and doctors in claiming the confidence of children is to be resolved in favour of the doctors.

The Appeal Court ruling has restored the supremacy of the Ten Commandments "Honour your father and your mother" over the medical profession's self-proclaimed guidelines. This is bound to be greeted with immense relief by all who seek to reassert the rights and duties of parents and who see a major cause for the rampant rise of crime and vice in the widespread breakdown of family life, aggravated by officially-encouraged challenges to parental control.

The BMA has argued that the new judgement will "force doctors into actions that will be beyond condones and damage a fundamental principle of medical practice". That may well be so. But surely even doctors will not argue that this principle is more fundamental than the respect owed to parents. Indeed, no other profession - teachers, clergymen or lawyers - ever made any such claim, demanding stronger bonds of trust with themselves than children have with parents.

The second reason for acclaiming the court ruling is that it represents a notable reversal of the trend towards ever more permissive society. The BMA document quite rightly affirms the strong belief "that it people under 16 know that their parents will be informed against their wishes, many more will just not seek contraceptive help, and more girls will become pregnant. It is likely that abortion rates would rise in consequence."

These consequences are unfortunate and may indeed be inevitable, at least for a while. But what the document does not consider is that an even greater number of girls (and their boyfriends) will now think twice before they irresponsibly embark on sexual adventures, and hold back from the brink of temptation by the very fear that a moment's pleasure may no longer be concealed from parents or its effects neutralized by the simple expedient of a doctor's prescription.

Doctors themselves ought to feel relieved that they will no longer be unwillingly exploited for the promotion of promiscuity.

Yours sincerely,
IMMANUEL JAKOBOVITS,
Chief Rabbi,
Adler House,
Tavistock Square, WC1,
December 27.

Economic expansion

From Mr Rhyddian Jones
Sir, Tim Congdon ("Economic commentary", December 20) seems surprised that "realist" refuse to concede that governments are unable to stimulate the economy. He argues that, in borrowing the money that is necessary for expansion, government will cause interest rates to rise and thus the whole exercise will be self-defeating.

But later in the same article he states that since the mid-seventies "the ratio of the public-sector borrowing requirement to gross domestic product has been reduced from over 10 per cent to about 2.5 per cent."

Following the logic of his own arguments, this should mean that interest rates, in real terms, are much lower now. This is not the case. He himself admits that they are twice the historical norm.

I'm afraid that the arguments about inflation, which he finds so convincing, are in the real world, and the sort of inconsistencies that are increasing by appearing in the case put forward by Mr Congdon and those who follow his particular line, will soon bring them to a conclusion. Perhaps we can then get back to a sensible economic policy.

Yours faithfully,
RHYDDIAN JONES,
Tunley Farm,
Tunley,
Bath, Avon.

Year of destiny

From Miss Helen Corkery
Sir, "Nineteen eighty-four" has come to be widely accepted as an ominous term of warning against the danger of the subjugation of the individual by the mechanisms of the state.

As the year 1984 passes into history instead of looming in the future, what phrase shall we now use to remind ourselves of the need for eternal vigilance?

Yours faithfully,
HELEN CORKERY,
52 Harrison Close,
Woodlands,
Reigate, Surrey.

From Dr Jonathan Stead

Sir, I am heartened to note that part of the Orwellian prophecy is fulfilled before the end of this year.

A letter received recently from an insurance company was signed by the Life Administrator.

Yours faithfully,
JONATHAN STEAD,
The Health Centre,
Silverton, Devon.



COURT AND SOCIAL

COURT CIRCULAR

SANDRINGHAM
December 30, Divine Service was held in Sandringham Church this morning. The Bishop of Norwich preached the sermon.

Mr Graham Matthews wishes his friends at home and abroad a very happy new year.

The 1983 Unesco prize for the teaching of human rights has been awarded to Professor Felix Ermacora, professor of public law at Vienna University and a member of the Austrian Parliament.

Forthcoming marriages

Mr J. P. Nairne
and **Dr A. A. Jeffery**
The engagement is announced between James, son of Sir Patrick and Lady Nairne, and Dr A. A. Jeffery, daughter of Mr and Mrs H. E. Jeffery, of London.

Mr P. L. Bazalgette
and **Miss H. J. Newiss**
The engagement is announced between Peter Lytton, youngest son of Mr and Mrs E. P. Bazalgette, of Rotherhithe, and Miss H. J. Newiss, daughter of Mr and Mrs R. S. Newiss, of High Gate House, Cross Hill, Kington, Yorkshire.

Dr D. Beer
and **Miss N. R. Salter**
The engagement is announced between Dominic, son of Mr and Mrs Michael Beer, of Reading, Berkshire, and Naomi Rosemary, daughter of Mr and Mrs James R. Salter, of Aston Clinton, Buckinghamshire.

Mr M. D. Bennett
and **Miss H. L. P. Thomas**
The engagement is announced between Mark Douglas, youngest son of Mr and Mrs G. G. Bennett, of Dulwich, London, and Hilary Louise Perry, daughter of Mr and Mrs W. J. Thomas, of Highgate West Hill, London.

Mr T. J. Branson
and **Miss C. J. Gill**
The engagement is announced between Timothy James, son of Mr and Mrs C. H. Branson, of Northwood, Middlesex, and Carol Jane, daughter of Mr and Mrs R. T. Gill, of Tudhoe Village, Co Durham.

Mr M. Cuts-Watson
and **Miss M. Watson**
The engagement is announced between Malcolm, youngest son of Mr and Mrs F. Cuts-Watson, of Ware, Hertfordshire, and Madeleine, elder daughter of Mr and Mrs E. M. Watson, of London, SW18.

Mr E. McClean
and **Miss N. Carne**
The engagement is announced between Eric William, youngest son of Mr and Mrs W. A. McClean, of Dunnington, Co Tyrone, and Nicola Trench, daughter of the late Lieutenant Rodney F. P. Carne, RN, and Mrs Doreen, of Moriston, RN, of Chalfont St Giles, Buckinghamshire.

Mr J. H. R. Pakenham
and **Miss N. D. Mason**
The engagement is announced between Jonathan Hugh, elder son of the Rev Stephen and Mrs Pakenham, of St Marybourne, Hampshire, and Nina Diana, daughter of Mrs Maida Mason and the late Lawrence Woodhouse Mason, of Winchester.

Latest wills

Sir George Sangster Dunnet, KBE, CB, of Cowden, Kent, chairman of the Sugar Board for 1956 to 1970, and Deputy Secretary of the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food from 1947 to 1956, left estate valued at £246,727 net.

Mr Anthony Benn Shrimley, of The Hyde, London, a journalist, Director of Press and Public Relations for the Conservative Party since 1983, left estate valued at £171,766 net.

Other estates include, (net before tax paid):
Conley, Mrs Emma, of Pickering, North Yorks £211,054

Mr S. J. Merriman
and **Miss L. McCandless**
The engagement is announced between Simon John, son of Mr and Mrs J. H. Merriman, of Coton, Cambridgeshire, and Lisa, daughter of Mr and Mrs D. McCandless, of the Village, Walton-on-the-Hill, Stafford.

Mr A. J. Harper
and **Miss A. J. Peacock**
The engagement is announced between Anthony, son of Dr and Mrs W. W. Harper, of Drigg, Cumbria, and Alison, daughter of Mr and Mrs G. Peacock, of Beckenham, Kent.

Mr A. C. Pickard
and **Miss R. R. Walsh**
The engagement is announced between Anthony Geoffrey, elder son of Mr R. H. Pickard, FRCS, of Frinton-on-Sea, Essex, and Mrs R. R. Walsh, of Great Bromley, and the late Mrs J. Walsh.

Mr B. A. G. Pratt
and **Miss J. M. Scholze**
The engagement is announced between Ballice Alexander Gammon, elder son of Mrs D. L. C. Pratt, of "Sturley", Queen Street, Elgin, Moray, and the late A. R. Pratt, and Jennifer Margaret, daughter of Mr and Mrs K. E. E. Scholze, of "De Hoop", Pouter, Sussex, Transvaal, South Africa.

Mr K. Shaker-Khalil
and **Miss S. A. Boyle**
The engagement is announced between Karim, elder son of Dr and Mrs H. Shaker-Khalil, of Chesham, Bucks, and Sally, daughter of Dr and Mrs R. T. Boyle, of Doncaster, Yorkshire.

Mr P. J. Smyth
and **Miss E. J. Humphreys**
The engagement is announced between Philip, elder son of Mr and Mrs A. L. Smyth, of Upton, Manchester, and Emma, daughter of Mr and Mrs R. G. Humphreys, of Rainow, Cheshire.

Mr M. P. Styles
and **Miss A. C. Cose**
The engagement is announced between Martin, only son of Mr and Mrs Peter Styles, of Bramley, Surrey, and Sarah Anne, younger daughter of Mr K. V. Cose, of Bramley, and Mrs Hazel Knapp, of Guildford.

Mr S. N. Phillips
and **Miss V. L. Letchford**
The engagement is announced between Stephen Neil, younger son of Mr and Mrs Ray Tophill, of Telford, Shropshire, and Victoria Louise, daughter of Professor and Mrs Thomas Kemper, of Greenlands, Henley-on-Thames, Oxfordshire.

Mr P. M. A. Weston
and **Miss D. M. Reid**
The engagement is announced between Paul, eldest son of Mr and Mrs P. S. Weston, of Kenley, Surrey, and Dorothy, younger daughter of Mr and Mrs W. J. Reid, of Burnside, Glasgow.

The Church of England had a good year in 1984, the best for some time. Religion was talked about again in the land, and the media screen-time and column inches flowed.

Even the York Minister fire in July was profitable, measured in terms of interest, aroused and time spent in public houses when God was discussed.

Paradoxically from many points of view within the Church of England itself it may have seemed a particularly bad year.

Conservative lay people and Conservative Evangelicals spent most of it fretting about the doctrinal attitude of the Bishop of Durham, the Right Rev David Jenkins; they and the Anglo-Catholics saw the issue of women priests escape from the limbo to which they had managed to confine it, and begin to move again; Conservative politicians saw the church in new and hostile light; those who want remarriage of divorcees in church, mostly broad or liberal churchmen, have been thwarted once again by a grass roots reaction.

Disappointments were fairly spread around; but each controversy did its bit or small bit towards raising the visibility of religion, the lowliness of which is

Marriages

Mr L. L. Bowman, Jr.
and **Mrs S. R. C. Beeson**
The marriage has taken place quietly in Lewes, Sussex, between Mr Lee Bowman, son of Mr and Mrs Lee Bowman, of Los Angeles, California, and Mrs Susan Beeson, daughter of the late Mr Guy Gerard and Mrs Barbara Gerard, of Florence, Italy.

Mr M. B. Durcan
and **Miss A. E. Mathers**
The marriage took place on Saturday, December 29, at Blaisdon Hall, Gloucestershire, of Mr Matthew Durcan, son of Mr and Mrs M. J. Durcan, of Woodford, London, and Miss Alison Mathers, daughter of Mr and Mrs V. J. Mathers, of Minsterworth, Gloucestershire.

Mr P. Valentin
and **Miss H. Lagasse**
The marriage took place on December 28, in Mauritius, between M Philippe Valentin, son of M and Mme Roger Valentin, of Rue la Fontaine, Paris, and Miss Hildegarde Lagasse, daughter of Mr and Mrs Pierre Lagasse, of Holland Park, London.

Mr J. M. Somerville
and **Miss S. Schwonek**
The marriage took place quietly in London, on December 29, between Mr John Matthew Somerville, son of Mr and Mrs J. A. Somerville, of Nayland, Suffolk, and Miss Suzette Schwonek, daughter of Mr M. E. Schwonek, of Port Talbot, South Wales.

St Andrew's School Pangbourne

The Governors of St Andrew's School, Pangbourne, have appointed as headmaster Dr Robert J. Acheson, currently a housemaster at the Duke of York's Royal Military School, Dover. Dr Acheson will take up his appointment in September, 1985.

Science report

Artificial jade joins list of manufactured gems

By Pearce Wright, Science Editor

It is almost 15 years ago that the first gem-quality diamonds were reproduced in the laboratory. Since then scientists have synthesised an impressive list of precious stones including sapphire, ruby, emerald, opal, turquoise, and lapis lazuli.

But some rare stones have eluded the modern alchemist who transmutates common-or-garden substances, such as sand and clay into an object of rare beauty.

One of them is jadeite, the rare stone that has been polished into fine jewellery

and carved into exquisite objects for more than 3,000 years.

Now a number of man-made samples of jade, cylindrical-shaped objects a quarter of an inch in diameter and half an inch long, have been created in the same laboratory where the first diamonds were made.

Dr Robert deVries, an inorganic chemist, and Mr James Fleischer, a specialist in high-pressure research, have synthesised jadeite in half an hour in a thumb-sized furnace inside a

high diamond-making press at Schenectady, New York State.

Enough material was produced for polishing into gems. Jadeite has a peculiar structure when stained under the microscope. It has a polycrystalline arrangement, resembling interlocking needles, which makes it extremely tough and suitable for carving.

Ancient Chinese dynasties considered it more valuable than gold and other precious stones. The synthetic variety began to appear in the market, which must have been present

in the melt when the natural mineral was created: sodium, aluminium and silicon oxides.

In the laboratory the materials are mixed together in powder form and heated in a furnace to 2,700 degrees Fahrenheit. The molten liquid is withdrawn from the furnace and allowed to cool into a glassy solid.

Next, the glass is crushed and refired to the same temperature. In the tiny furnace inside the diamond-making press, where the material is exposed, during heating to pressure of up to

440,000 pounds a square inch. The result is a cylindrical piece of white jadeite which can be polished into an oval jewel.

By adding traces of other materials to the starting powder mix, the scientists are able to synthesise pieces of varying colour, such as green by adding larger amounts of chromium, and lavender by adding manganese. Samples have been made in the laboratory with layered combinations of colours, such as green and white, as often occurs in nature.

Clifford Longley

1984: A ministry of 'silly' talk

A far more fundamental problem than each of these partisan issues.

In a highly secularized God-indifferent society, all publicity is good publicity. It had been a particular vice of the Church of England that it positively enjoyed a quiet life, and disliked being disturbed or being disturbing.

The Church of England is an institution in whose internal controversies the whole population feels entitled to join; that is a slight shift from the traditional definition of it as a national church, one to whose services the whole population feels entitled to come.

They do not; but they do have opinions on whether God exists, whether that matters, and how it matters if it does.

It is a nation where the cardinal principle is private judgement on matters religious: the Church of England is a catholic church for a Protestant nation, in this respect. That is a fruitful relationship, if the church understands and handles it right.

It will never peak; one of its chief functions is to be rejected. But for that it has to be visible enough; and to be visible, as 1984 shows, it has to have enough internal tension to generate heat and light.

Visibility allows people to take bearings from it. That is probably the most that a "national church" can hope to register.

This means that the Church of England has no business worrying that too much discussion in its ranks will harm its public image. Yet almost all the issues which have this year brought attention to religion only happened because they survived attempts to smother them at birth, and attempts to smother them at each new stage.

The message repeatedly conveyed to the Bishop of Durham, for instance, was that he should shut up; more generally, people were told they were being silly if they speculated about the act of God which caused the York fire.

Religion is an area in which people are particularly sensitive to being told they are "silly". One well known study some years ago set out to record the prevalence of religious experience in the general population, and found that the proportion of positive answers varied with the length of time the interview took.

This strongly suggests that most people think other people think religious sentiments are silly, and will not admit to them

The night sky in January

By Our Astronomical Correspondent

Mercury will be at greatest morning elongation (23°) on the 3rd, when it will be rising about an hour and a half before the Sun. Magnitude near zero and brightening.

Venus will reach greatest evening elongation (47°) on the 22nd, when it will be setting four hours after the Sun. Magnitude -4.0 and brightening. Moon not far from it on the 24th.

Mars is also an evening object, moving from Aquarius into Pisces and not setting until about 21 hrs, when it is just above the first magnitude, and therefore very much less bright than Venus, which is rapidly catching it up from the West. Moon in the area on the 24th and 25th.

Jupiter will be in conjunction with the Sun on the 14th, and is unlikely to be seen this month.

Saturn is a morning star in Libra, rising at 04 hrs at the beginning of the month, and 02 hrs 30 m at the end. Moon just south of it on the 16th.

Uranus is in Ophiuchus and will rise at about 05 hrs 30 m in mid-month. It is not visible to the naked eye.

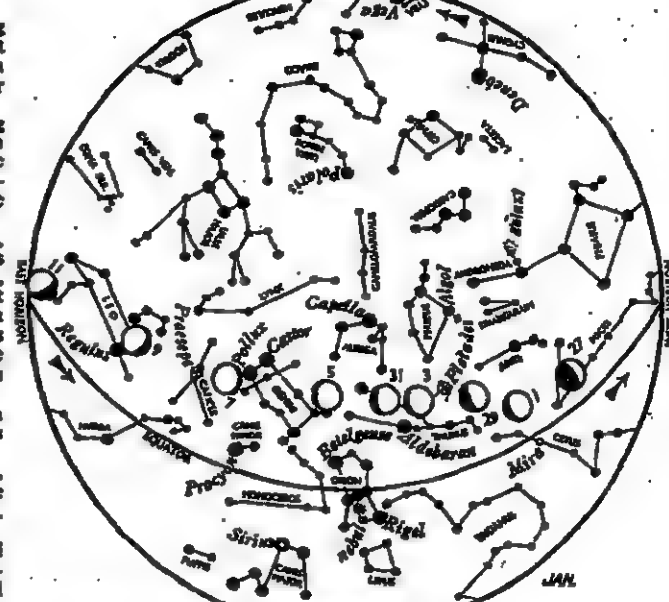
Neptune is in Sagittarius, and will rise at about 06 hrs 40 m in mid-month. It also is not visible to the naked eye.

The Moon: full, 7 d 02 h; last quarter, 13 d 23 h; new, 21 d 02 h; first quarter, 29 d 03 h.

Also: approximate times of evening minima are 8 d 23 h, 11 d 20 h, 14 d 17 h, and 31 d 22 h.

The Earth will be at perihelion at 3 d 20 h. This is the point in its orbit nearest to the Sun, distance 147 million kilometres (92.4 million miles). The Sun at its greatest apparent diameter, 32'38" (0.543°).

In the early evening, the low southern sky is occupied by the struggling and not very bright constellation of Cetus, the whale or sea-monster; in mythology the creature sent by Neptune to drown Andromeda. Alpha and Beta (top left and bottom right in our map) are near second magnitude, but the rest are only third and fourth. If you look now you will find that the



The diagram shows the brighter stars that will be above the horizon in the evening. It is a map of the sky as seen from the North Pole of the Earth, looking down on the North Star, Polaris. The stars are shown in their relative positions, and the constellations are labeled. The diagram is a circular map, with the North Star at the center. The stars are shown in their relative positions, and the constellations are labeled. The diagram is a circular map, with the North Star at the center. The stars are shown in their relative positions, and the constellations are labeled.

middle star, Mira, is missing. This is a famous variable star with a range from third magnitude to 10th; these limits are themselves variable and it has been as bright as a good second. The period is 332 days (also not quite invariable), so it reaches maximum a month earlier each year. It was just about at its minimum last month, and by the time of the next maximum in early June, the star will be above the horizon in daylight. It is visible to the naked eye for about one-third of its period, and comparable with the rest of the stars in Cetus for about 60 days.

Mira is a large red giant, pulsating in size by about 20 per cent. Contractions means a rise in temperature and expansion; the range being approximately 2,600 to 1,900 degrees Kelvin (roughly Centigrade). Maximum occurs during the expansion stage, when at least to some extent the increase in surface area more than compensates for the decrease in surface brightness. The variability of this star was first recorded by D. Fabricius in 1596.

Readers of last month's notes may have noticed mention of an unfamiliar constellation, "The Kipper". This was a printer's error and should have been Dipper.

Birthdays

TODAY: Mr Douglas Anthony, 71; Mr Clavell Bean, 79; Mr Michael Boullock, 50; Mr George Christie, 50; Mr Stephen Cleobury, 36; Mr Marshall Sir Patrick Dunn, 72; Major-General J. D. Frost, 72; Jack Hargreaves, 73; Lord Hawke, 83; Mr Anthony Hopkins, 47; Mr Ben Kingsley, 41; Mr E. B. Mackay, 62; Mr Peter May, 55; Mr Nathan Milstein, 80; Dr Valerie Pearl, 38; Mr John-Pierre Nivet, 32; Sir Joshua Rowley, 64; the Earl of Strathmore, 56.

NEW YEAR'S DAY: Dr Jack Birks, 65; Professor Richard Bishop, 60; Sir James Bond, 64; Mr Bill Kenwright, 62; Mr Frank Langella, 45; Dr James Macmillan, 70; Colonel P. A. Porteous, VC, 67; Professor R. A. Raphael, 64; Sir Ashton Roalick, QC, 83.

Latest appointments

Latest appointments include: Mr Philip Walker, associate editor of the *Daily Express*, to be deputy editor of the *Daily Mirror*.

OBITUARY

PROF G. BARRACLOUGH

Historian of broad vision

Professor Geoffrey Barraclough who died on December 26, aged 76, was one of the most remarkable figures of his generation of English historians. By training and early practice an historian of medieval Europe, he suddenly in mid-career jumped his field of interest some six centuries forward in time, becoming one of the leading British historians of contemporary international relations.

His reputation in the United States and Europe, where professors of history are expected to shift their major fields of research at regular intervals across the centuries, was enormous. His British colleagues, especially in his later years, tended to view his achievements rather more coolly, taking such shifts of interest as less indicative of the true grasp of scholarship than of a restless and dissatisfied mind. That view had enough justice in it to lead them to overlook the real breadth and depth of his scholarly instincts, or the insights which made him so stimulating a teacher and writer.

Geoffrey Barraclough was born a Yorkshireman on May 10, 1908. He was educated at Eborham School, York, and at Oriel College, Oxford. From Oxford, where he specialized in medieval history, he went in 1931 to Munich as Bryce Research Scholar and in the same year to the British School at Rome. Though Protestant by upbringing and Protestant by temperament, he chose the medieval Papacy as the height of its power as his field of research.

His research on the machinery of Papal government in the 13th century, specially *Public Notices and the Papal Curia*, (1934) and *Papal Provisions*, (1935) is still cited today, even by Catholic historians. Thirty years later his continuing interest in the Papacy was shown in the best short introduction to the subject, *The Medieval Papacy*, (1965).

In 1934 he returned to England, first as a Fellow of Merton College, Oxford, and two years later to St John's College, Cambridge, where, in 1937, he obtained a University Lectureship.

His period in Germany and Italy had made him deeply aware of the lamentable ignorance of Continental, specially German, scholarship displayed by English historians and students. His determination to remedy this led to his editing a series of essays by German emigrant historians, *Medieval Germany*, (1930), the theme of which was the development of the German state.

With the outbreak of Second World War he joined the Foreign Office political intelligence department. From 1942-45 he served with the RAF and during that period wrote the greater part of perhaps his finest book, *The Origins of Modern Germany*, (1946).

His object was "to establish the perspectives of German history in the hope and belief that wider knowledge of what he meant an understanding of German medieval history" would cast a clearer light on present perplexities and problems. The work is deeply imbued with sympathy for the German people, expressing his

belief that much of German history was, in a sense, a conspiracy against their wishes and interests.

In 1945 he was appointed to the Chair of Medieval History at Liverpool; in scholarly terms this was a very fruitful period. Not only did it turn his hand to the medieval history of England with his study of *The Earldom and County Palatine of Chester* (1953) and his edition of *Early Cheshire Charters* (1957), but he began to set down his views of the history of his own lifetime and the enormous change in world power relationships which the Soviet victory at Stalingrad signified. The resulting work, *History in a Changing World*, (1955) made a major impact on the historical profession.

He was thus the obvious successor to Professor Arnold Toynbee when the latter retired from the Stevenson Research Professorship of International History at the Royal Institute of International Affairs in 1956.

His new appointment, however, involved him, not in the broad seat for which his predecessor's *Study of History* had been both praised and denounced, but in the minutiae of writing and editing the annual or biennial *Survey of International Affairs*.

He found himself overwhelmed by the vast amounts of evidence available to 20th century historians, and after six years and three volumes of the *Survey*, he resigned from Chatham House. He embarked on a series of short-term professorships and lectureships in the United States, including three years each at the University of California and at Brandeis.

In scholarly terms this was one of his most fruitful periods, marked by his *European Unity in Thought and Action* (1963) and his seminal *Introduction to Contemporary History* (1964). His election to the Chichele Professorship of History at Oxford in 1970 was long overdue recognition of the role he played in the development and advancement of historical study, both of the medieval and the contemporary period in Britain.

Barraclough could be the most congenial of companions, as he could be the most exasperating of teachers. But he was not the easiest of colleagues. He disliked the job of academic organization and negotiation which fell so heavily on senior academic figures in British universities.

His outstanding virtues were the care, training and inspiration he gave to his juniors and the scholarly probity which made him recognize and advance the careers of people whose abilities he respected but whose views he opposed.

In spite of the restlessness which took him so frequently from one post to another, and in spite of the indecisiveness which he so often exhibited, he will remain one of the foremost and one of the most complete all round historians and scholars of his generation.

His last achievement, the *Times Atlas of World History*, showed his ability to command the loyalties of a wide range of the younger generation of British historians, and sets a fitting seal on his career.

SAM PECKINPAH

Sam Peckinpah, an American film director, died in Los Angeles on December 28, aged 59. He will be most remembered for his graphic depiction of violence, particularly in the western *The Wild Bunch*, and in *Straw Dogs*, a film he made in Britain and which was banned by several local authorities. By he was also a film maker of tenderness and charm, and it is a mark of his complex character that the two strands could co-exist, often in the same picture.

His directing career began with a series of westerns, of which at least two, *The Wild Bunch* and *Guns in the Afternoon*, are among the finest examples of the genre. His achievement was to strip the western of its traditional romanticism and provide a more searching critique - influenced by contemporary American experience and especially the Vietnam war - of the rule of the gun.

His best pictures came early, and there is a sense of a potentially formidable talent not redeeming its initial promise. Part of this stemmed from Peckinpah's own personality. Volatile and uncompromising, he found the disciplines of the film industry difficult to accommodate, and there was also a self-destructive element, typified by heavy drinking. But for all its shortcomings, his work entitles him to be ranked with the leading American directors of the last 20 years.

Samuel David Peckinpah was born in California, the son and grandson of judges. After service in the Marines in the Second World War he gained a master's degree in drama at the University of Southern California. He worked in the theatre as a director and actor before moving into television and becoming a script writer and director on such western series as *Gunsmoke*, *The Rifleman*, and *The Westerner*.

He entered the cinema in the mid 1950s and his first films as director, *The Deadly Companions* and *Guns in the Afternoon*, both low-budget westerns, appeared in 1961. The first one immediately announced Peckinpah's impulse

to question the western myth, and the second film took the process further in a story, by turns harsh and lyrical, of two ageing gunfighters setting off on a last mission.

Peckinpah's next venture, *Major Dundee*, was more ambitious in scope but brought the first of several brushes with producers, resulting in the film being severely cut without his consent. Enough remained to suggest the making of a masterpiece, though Charlton Heston as a tough Federal officer leading a bunch of Confederate prisoners against the Apaches.

It was five years before Peckinpah directed again. He was dismissed from *Cincinnati Kid* and filled in with script-writing until *The Wild Bunch* which came out in 1969. It followed a group of outlaws on a bloody trail from Texas into Mexico, and almost for the first time in a western the slaughter was made explicit and often prolonged by the use of slow motion. Peckinpah's justification for dwelling on the bloodshed was to underline the futility, and harrowing though many of its scenes are *The Wild Bunch* is his finest film.

The violence, which included a long rape scene, was more difficult to defend in *Straw Dogs*, a gruesome fable about an American lecturer and his wife besieged by Cornish villagers. But in mellow mood, and as if to disarm his critics, Peckinpah made *The Ballad of Cable Hogue* and *Junior Bonner*, an affectionate study of an ageing rodeo star, played by Steve McQueen.

Peckinpah returned to the western with *Pai Garrett and Billy the Kid*, an intense and powerful study of a doomed relationship which was another victim of producer interference.

Peckinpah's later films were generally less successful. He turned to the brutalities of the Russian Front in the war *Cross of Iron*, but the context somehow defeated him. He later tried to set up a production in Mexico, underwent heart surgery and saw several projects fail to materialize.

Queen's Bench Division

Law Report December 31, 1984

Divisional Court

Persuasion not ILEA's function

Regina v Inner London Education Authority, Ex parte Westminster City Council. Before Mr Justice Gidwell. (Judgment delivered December 19).

A decision of the Inner London Education Authority, under section 142 of the Local Government Act 1972, to retain an advertising agency to conduct a campaign with the object of informing the public of the effect of rate capping on the authority and of persuading the public to the view held by the authority was invalid because it was pursuing an unauthorized purpose, namely that of persuasion, which had materially influenced the making of its decision. Mr Justice Gidwell so held in *The Queen's Bench Division* granting an application by Westminster City Council for judicial review of ILEA's decision.

Section 142(2) of the 1972 Act provides: "A local authority may (a) arrange for the publication within their areas of information on matters relating to local government."

Mr Anthony Scrivenor, QC and Mr Alan Wilkie for Westminster, Mr Alexander Irvine, QC and Mr Brian Keith for ILEA.

constituted "information on matters relating to local government".

The following all came within the phrase: (a) an account of the various facilities provided by and the activities engaged in by ILEA; (b) a description of proposed or even hoped for improvements in or increases in those facilities and activities; (c) the cost of the various facilities and activities, present and anticipated for the future; (d) an explanation of the effect of legislation, including the Rates Act 1984; (e) a description of the extent to which ILEA's activities and facilities would probably have to be curtailed if the Secretary of State's maximum expenditure was to be achieved, including estimates or suggestions of particular facilities or activities which would be affected in this way.

The decision of the authority was intended to serve two purposes, namely, the giving of information to the public, and the persuasion of those members of the public who did not already hold a view about rate capping which coincided with ILEA's to adopt that view.

The question for the court to decide was whether a decision of a local authority to expend its ratepayers' money in order to achieve two purposes, one of which was, authorized, an activity by statute but for the other of which it had no authority, was invalid. His Lordship adopted the

guidance in the judgment of Mr Justice Megaw in *Hanks v Minister of Housing and Local Government* ([1963] 1 QB 999) and two of the issues referred to in *de Smith's Judicial Review of Administrative Action*, namely, "(i) What was the true purpose for which the power was exercised? If the actor has in truth used his power for the purposes for which it was conferred it is immaterial that he was thus enabled to achieve a subsidiary object" and "(v) Was any of

FINANCE AND INDUSTRY

Executive Editor Kenneth Fleet

Angles of growth in the global economic triangle

Since economic forecasting is at its weakest when it comes to spotting turning points in the business cycle - and particularly downturns - it behoves us to handle predictions for 1985 with an exceptional degree of caution. For 1985 looks, on historical patterns, a somewhat vulnerable year for the world economy. Growth in the industrial world as a whole which began early in 1983, accelerated this year to a rate unknown since 1976; but it was led by the United States, which was past its peak by midsummer.

That does not for one moment suggest we are in for a world slump in 1985 of the kind we suffered in 1975 and 1982 (when the combined outputs of the industrial economies fell). Indeed, the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development - which has just forecast growth of 3 per cent for the industrial world - may well be too cautious. The OECD was surprised by the strength of the world economy this year, and most significantly it not only underestimated the springtime American boom but also the rate at which growth carried on in the autumn, everywhere except the United States and strike-handicapped Britain.

West Germany, recovering from its springtime industrial troubles, has probably achieved a growth rate of more than 4 per cent during the past six months. This is particularly cheering, because it suggests that Europe is not quite as moribund as both sides of the Atlantic had come to believe. It marks the first real advance in Europe's dominant economy since 1980. Britain, forecast by the OECD to achieve the highest growth among the leading European countries, may actually enjoy some healthy German competition.

This is not so much a bonus as a necessity. For 1985 has, as we know, to be Europe's year. The United States is now showing signs of bouncing back a little, but whether it grows next year by 3 per cent (as the OECD forecasts) or even 4 per cent (as the Reagan Administration hopes) it is not going to set the pace for the rest of the world. So what we are likely to see after 1984 is rather like what we saw after the last world peak in 1976: not a slump, but a protracted slowdown.

There are obvious lessons here. For today's governments do not view the late 1970s as a time of unalloyed economic success. Yet industrial world growth was sustained at 3-4 per cent during 1977-79, an average we will be lucky to see over the next three years. So what have we learned during the intervening cycles? And could this knowledge be applied to better effect?

Well, we have clearly learnt to suppress inflation more effectively: the industrial world's combined inflation rate bottomed out at about 8 per cent in the late 1970s; today it is 5 per cent and expected to fall just a fraction further. Most of our governments have been through fearful struggles to contain budget deficits. Most of our bankers have learnt a heck of a lesson about sovereign lending.

But we have none of us rediscovered the elixir of growth - growth, that is, at a durable rate than can be relied upon, to bring unemployment back to the levels of the 1960s. Consider the three corners of the industrial world. America wins first prize for its ability to turn extra nominal demand for goods and services into real demand for the real output of its own and other economies' citizens. Yet America has pursued growth on the back of policies that rise, in today's buzz word, "unsustainable"; and the key indicator of this is not the budget deficit but America's still-growing deficit on international trade.

The United States had plunged far deeper into deficit than in any of the previous three American booms. This is not only because it has expanded more vigorously than its European competitors. There is increasing evidence that the

strong dollar is having greater-than-expected impact on America's trade. Yet this trade deficit is only the consequence, and not the cause, of a lot else that is happening in America. The OECD has been at some pains to examine the reasons for the dollar's persistent strength, which fits none too well with many of the propositions of economic theory. They find long-term real interest rates do provide some partial explanation. A down-to-earth explanation prevalent in the markets is that other governments will now follow any cuts in American short-term interest rates.

Perhaps the most significant part of the OECD analysis is its destruction of the beguiling American industry's superiority: that it is the high returns on real, not financial assets that impels money across the Atlantic from tired old Europe. The OECD demonstrates the interesting conclusion that the profitability of American industry has actually declined, relative to Europe's, over the past business cycle. It is possible that America's investment surge, now having its impact on production, may reverse that trend. Possible; but unlikely. For Europe, the second corner in the triangle of developed economies, has been enjoying its own surge in investment.

Why, then, can Europe not compete with America's growth? Partly because of its budgetary hassles, partly because of its inflexible markets - for labour, for goods and services that have to move across frontiers - the list is long and drearily familiar. What is not so familiar is the harsh glare of the spotlight on these deficiencies. Once America steps back, Europe's inability to match up to its productive potential will be fully exposed.

Thanks to America, Europe has managed to grow, a little, by exports. It will probably retain this opportunity even as America slows, because its trade balance will decline much more gradually. But it is a weak prop to a growth rate which has been, at best, inadequate.

It is also a prop over-used by the third point of our triangle. Japan displays so many of the economic facilities thrust after by European governments - flexibility, low unemployment, low inflation, high technological development. But not even Japan holds the secret of growth. Its expansion these past two years has been based on exporting financial capital to the United States, helping to create the trade gap into which its exports can flow. Japan's bilateral trade surplus with the United States this year may exceed \$35 billion (£30 billion).

That, too, appears simply "unsustainable". It does not, to repeat, mean that the international cardhouse of the world economy is about to collapse. The most cheerful lesson of the past two years is the ability of the international system to accommodate these extraordinary imbalances, and indeed to extract some considerable advantage from them. Unbalanced, staggered growth in the three corners of our triangle has, for example, kept commodity prices down at levels calculated by the OECD as equivalent to only one-half of their 1974 peaks, and some 8 per cent below their average in the 1960s.

Yet there is an obvious phenomenon of this imbalance to which we seem to have adjusted all too permanently. The slow-growth corner, Europe, is generally forecast to make 1985 the thirteenth year in a row in which its sole queue will lengthen. If the spotlight on the old world next year could lead it, by sustained government co-operation, to defeat this prophecy, that would be an event which rewrote superstition.

Sarah Hogg
Economics Editor

UK FORECASTS

Uneasy consensus over growth

An uneasy consensus has emerged over Britain's economic prospects in 1985. The consensus forecast is for growth of about 3 per cent, inflation remaining at about the current 5 per cent level, steady interest and exchange rates and an improvement in the balance of payments.

No significant improvement in the unemployment outlook is forecast, but those forecasters who expect unemployment to rise further in 1985, expect it to do so at a slower rate than in 1984.

The uneasiness arises because, while the Chancellor of the Exchequer sees 1985 as "The fourth year of steady growth, with a further year of investment and export-led growth in prospect and with no sign whatever of a resurgence in inflation," other forecasters see the prospects for Britain as slightly more vulnerable.

The range of forecasts for growth in 1985 is, broadly, 2.5-3.5 per cent, with the Treasury at the top end of the range. Already, one of the assumptions in the Treasury prediction has proved incorrect - that of the coal strike being over by the end of 1984 - and it is here that some forecasters see problems in 1985.

The 1985 growth estimates, including those of the Treasury, assume a bounce-back effect from the ending of the miners' strike of about 1 per cent. When this is taken into account, the Treasury's underlying growth forecast for 1985 is 2.5 per cent.

The Forecast for 1985					
	Growth, GDP (per cent)	Inflation, 4th quarter (per cent)	Unemployment, 4th quarter	Balance of payments, current account (£bn)	Exchange rate, sterling, 4th quarter (per cent)
Treasury	3.5	4.5	3.0	2.5	75.0
OECD	3.0	4.5	3.0	0	75.0
National Institute	3.3	4.5	3.2	-0.7	75.0
London Business School	3.1	5.0	3.2	0.5	81.0
Liverpool Group	3.5	2.5	3.1	0.5	77.5
Henley Centre	2.4	6.0	3.2	-0.65	78.0
Phillips & Drew	3.2	5.4	3.2	0.6	76.5
Simon & Coates	3.5	4.2	3.1	1.0	75.0
James Capel	2.8	4.9	3.2	0.1	75.0
Laing & Cruckshank	3.1	6.0	3.1	0.3	75.8
1984	2.2	4.9	3.1	0	75.0

*Assumption.

the Henley Centre's less than 1.5 per cent. In its December *Economic Outlook*, the Paris-based Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development gave a warning that one of the main risks to the continued British recovery in 1985 was that "the coal strike could be prolonged through the winter with more serious consequences than hitherto."

Even at the top end of the range of growth forecasts, the economy is not expected to move at a strong enough rate to bring about a reduction in unemployment. The Treasury's working assumption is that adult unemployment will remain around the 1984/85 average of three million. Others see the level creeping up to 3.2 million.

The biggest differences of opinion arise on inflation prospects for 1985. Professor

Patrick Minford's Liverpool University forecasting group, now no longer effectively counterbalanced by Professor Wynne Godley's Cambridge Economic Policy Group, sees the downward path to nil inflation resumed in earnest in 1985, with inflation ending the year, at about 2.5 per cent.

Several of the forecasters expect inflation to end 1985 at about 6 per cent, the effects of sterling's weakness and high wage growth feeding through to the figures.

However, Simon & Coates, which has just reduced its fourth-quarter 1985 inflation forecast, sees the sterling weakness effect as coming through in the middle of 1985, when inflation is forecast to rise to around 5.5 per cent, lower interest and mortgage rates bringing inflation down to 4.2 per cent by the end of the year. The balance of payments,

The new agreement on oil prices adopted by the Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries (Opec) after a full ministerial meeting in Geneva spanning more than two weeks, is already being described as "shaky" by international oil traders.

Under the agreement, from which Nigeria and Algeria have opted out, Opec oil prices will remain at \$29 a barrel, for medium grade oil but the price of heavy crudes rises by 50 cents to \$26.50 a barrel, with the cost of very light crudes at the top end of the Opec price structure being cut by 25 cents.

Nigeria and Algeria have argued that the gap between the two grades is too big and will do little to encourage customers to buy their light oils when modern refineries can increasingly cope with heavier grades.

Nigeria is also concerned that Britain and Norway, whose North Sea oil is directly comparable with its own, will cut in their official contract price which is now between 25

and 35 cents below the Opec market.

Opec, which has scheduled its next official ministerial meeting for July 22, has already indicated that it regards the new price structure as temporary and plans to hold a meeting in Geneva on January 19 to review the situation.

There are signs that the monitoring committee will be converted to a full meeting of all 13 member nations. Dr Mansur Sed Otaiba, the committee chairman and United Arab Emirates oil minister, said yesterday: "We have an interim agreement and we will continue to discuss the differential pricing system next month."

Sheikh Ahmed Zaki Yamani, the Saudi Arabian oil minister, said that Opec is studying every possibility for changes in its price structure, but for the time being there is no change in its benchmark price.

Dr Subroto, the Opec president, said: "We are the first to recognise that the steps we have taken on price differential may not be ideal."

City expects pound to rise 10 cents by year end

By Christopher Dunn

A 10 cent recovery in the sterling-dollar rate, broadly unchanged interest rates, stable equities at the present high levels and a gilt market rally are key features in City expectations for 1985, according to the annual survey of stock market opinion organized by the stockbroker L. Messel.

Returns from the broker's questionnaire indicate fund managers see the sterling-dollar rate back up to \$1.27, by December 31, 1985, compared with its present \$1.16. Clearing bank base rates are forecast to be 9.25 per cent, roughly the same as now.

The Financial Times 30-share Index should be about 975, some 30 points above last week's closing levels. Yields on Treasury 13 per cent 2000 should be 10.40 per cent, over half a point better than present returns.

Mr Tim Congdon of L. Messel said yesterday that the survey had received 255 replies, 19 more than in 1983. He pointed out that on most of the financial questions the market's view in December 1983 had been remarkably accurate, notably for interest rates, money supply, public sector borrowing requirement and the balance of payments. But the City had seriously underestimated the extent of sterling's weakness.

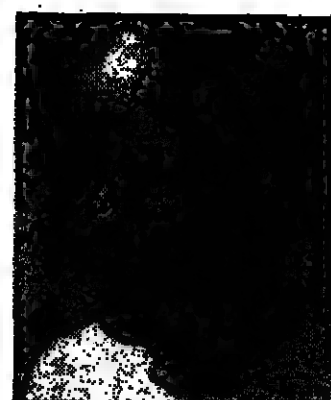
Other elements in the 1984 forecasts include a slight recovery for sterling on the trade-weighted index, 74.1 (December 29-73.2), and little change in the US prime lending rate at 10.3 per cent. Inflation, as measured by the Retail Price Index, ought to rise by 5.3 per cent.

Among real variables, the balance of payments is forecast to slip into deficit by \$8 million. United Kingdom gross domestic product should rise by 2.7 per cent, and the US by 3.6 per cent. Organization for economic cooperation and development GDP may rise by a little less, 3.1 per cent. Consumer spending in Britain may increase by 2.8 per cent.

According to Mr Congdon, institutional investors see 1985 as a stable and rather boring year, in terms of the economy,

Opec accord on oil prices looks shaky, say traders

By David Young, Energy Correspondent



Tam David-West: "acting in Nigeria's best interests"

The Opec agreement on price differentials is being seen by oil traders as unlikely to do anything to clarify the confused trading pattern in the world oil markets or restore any confidence in Opec.

However, Opec's decision to set up a monitoring committee to enforce its output-quota agreement is being seen as a more positive step and, if successful, could result in a better climate in which to reach

a more detailed agreement on prices.

The new committee, which will operate with the help of independent auditors based in each producing country, is due to report to Opec on March 28.

Nigeria, which was the last member country to adopt the Opec quota monitoring agreement and is still out of step with its colleagues in pricing its crude at below the \$29 market price, has accepted a role as the African representative of the four-member enforcement body, in an attempt to assure other members that it intends to stick to its quotas.

However, on the matter of price, Nigeria has said that it will have to match any North Sea reduction. The Nigerian oil minister, Professor Tam David-West said yesterday: "I do what is in the best interests of Nigeria. The question of prices is a supreme decision only to be made by my head of state."

Algeria's reason for not adopting the new price structure was largely because it does not cover prices charged for refined products.

Asda acquires Odhams site

By Our City Staff

Associated Dairies, the Leeds superstore group, has clinched another deal in its attempt to expand into the lucrative South-eastern consumer belt, by buying the former Odhams printing site in Watford from Mr Robert Maxwell's BPC group for an undisclosed sum.

Most of the 110-acre site will be modified to form an Asda superstore, scheduled to open in 1986. Planning permission for a change of industrial use is understood to have been negotiated by the BPC group.

The site has been vacant since last year when Odhams merged with the Sun printing group in Watford. About 1,400

jobs were lost. The Asda store should, when open, lead to the creation of about 800 jobs.

The move marks a coup for Asda which was said to be in sharp competition with Sainsbury, its principal rival in the South East.

It also points to greater competition for Tesco and Sainsbury, the grocery chains which dominate the London area. They have more than 50 per cent of the total square footage in food stores of over 10,000 square feet.

Asda's one hundredth store, opened in Charlton, south east London in October, was only its fourth London site.

According to Mr John Hardman, Asda's managing director, the group would like to run about 30 superstores in the London area.

Mr Robert Maxwell has promoted two of his sons within his empire. Mr Ian Maxwell, aged 28, becomes a director of the British Printing & Communication Corporation with responsibility for sales development and Mr Kevin Maxwell, aged 26, a director of Pergamon Press, the title deputy publisher. He will be concerned with computer software. A spokeswoman for Mr Maxwell said: "The appointments are purely on merit."

Beckett urges profit and jobs 'crusade'

By Edward Townsend, Industrial Correspondent

Sir Terence Beckett, director general of the Confederation of British Industry, today called for a "national crusade" for 1985 based on a new "determination to succeed."

In a new year message, Sir Terence said: "The stakes are high. Growing unemployment could undermine everything we hold dear. We must develop the business we have open to us and provide more jobs."

For the first time Britain is importing more manufactured goods than it is selling overseas and this is the main reason for the 3.25 million unemployed, Sir Terence said.

Living standards, he believes, are being shored up by the extensive oil and gas reserves in the North Sea.

"But increased prosperity and more jobs should be well within our capacity. We have the skills, the energy and the resourcefulness to match the best that the rest of the world can produce. We must now develop the determination to succeed." Shops should be filled with British goods, although no compromise should be made on appeal, quality, price, availability or after-sales service.

Britain's managers have been urged to strive for improved competitiveness in a New Year message from Sir Peter Parker, chairman of the British Institute of Managers.

He told the BIMS 75,000 members: "Improved competitiveness must be our justified obsession in the BIMS."

US may drop car quotas

By Our Economics Editor

Trade restrictions will be high on the agenda for talks between President Reagan and Prime Minister Nakasone of Japan in Los Angeles on Wednesday.

There were indications over the weekend from American officials that the President might be prepared to allow curbs on imports on Japanese cars to lapse in March. Restrictions have been in force since 1981, but it is accepted in Washington that a number of joint ventures between American and Japanese

car producers has removed part of the case for controls. On their part, Japanese carmakers are pressing hard for an end to restrictions.

A possible solution, to be confirmed by talks between American and Japanese trade ministers scheduled for February, would be for the Americans to allow restrictions to lapse in return from an understanding from the Japanese that they would not mount a major export drive.

Nigerian budget due this week

By John Lawless

Today marks the first anniversary of the coup which brought military rule back to Nigeria.

The ousting of the civilian president, Mr Shehu Shagari, came two days after he had announced a "colossal" loss of oil revenues and a budget which promised Nigerians a hefty dose of austerity.

The man who seized power, Major-General Muhammadu Buhari, last week delayed publishing his own tough budget. The international financial community had been geared up to receive it in the hope that it would contain signs that deadlocked talks with the International Monetary Fund might be resumed.

But, said a spokesman at the Nigerian High Commission in London, the budget is now expected some time this week.

Foreigners living in Nigeria have felt the economic measures since the coup. The amount of pay they are allowed to send home has been halved twice in the past year, allowing remittances of just 2½ per cent of salaries.

The IMF will next month be reviewing the effectiveness of such economic measures, and many others taken in the past year - particularly those aimed at reducing imports and conserving foreign exchange.

The obstacle is still Nigeria's refusal to devalue the naira.

MARKET SUMMARY

STOCK MARKETS	
Friday's close and change on week	
FT-100 Index	943.2 (+20.9)
FT-A All Share	559.74 (+8.78)
FT Govt Securities	81.88 (-0.22)
FT-SE 100	1,225.6 (+20.9)
Bergedals	14.11
Dataseam USM	103.94 (+0.65)
New York	
Dow Jones	1,204.17 (+5.19)
Tokyo	
Nikkei Dow	11,542.6 (+68.3)
Hong Kong	
Hang Seng	1,185.67 (-12.92)
Amsterdam	181.9 (+0.9)
Sydney	726.1 (+8.4)
Frankfurt	
Commerzbank	1,107.9 (+14.9)
Brussels	
General	158.3 (+0.8)
Paris CAC	182.4 (+1.5)
Zurich	
SKA General	323 (+3.7)

GOLD	
London fixing:	
am \$309.50pm-\$308.30	
clm \$308.75-\$309.25	(£285.50-286)
New York:	
Comex \$308.25	

CURRENCIES	
Friday's close and change on week	
£/\$	1.627 (-0.0108)
DM/\$	3.6510 (-0.0025)
Sfr/\$	3.0090 (-0.0035)
FF/\$	11.18 (-0.005)
Yen/\$	291.10 (+0.35)
Index:	73.2 (unchanged)
New York:	
\$/£	1.6550
\$/DM	3.1357
\$/Index	144.6 (+1.1)

INTEREST RATES	
London:	
Bank Base:	9½-9½
3-month interbank 10½-10	
3-month eligible bills 9½-9½	
buying rate	
US:	
Prime Rate	10.75% Federal Funds
8½-3-month Treasury Bills	7.77-7.73%
Long bond 102½-102½	

BOARD MEETINGS	
TODAY	- Interims: Arbuthnot
	Dollar Income Trust (second interim). Financ. Note.
WEDNESDAY	- Interims: A I M Group, T R City of London Trust (second interim). Financ. Note.
THURSDAY	- Interims: British Bank of Commerce, Financ. Note.
FRIDAY	- Interims: New Court Resources. Financ. Note.

IN BRIEF

China to join patents body

China is to adhere to the International Patents Convention, according to the official New China News Agency. Peking has not previously respected international patent, which has discouraged some foreign companies from investing in China.

The accession document was handed over in Geneva by China's Mr Li Luyi, China's ambassador, to the head of the United Nations body which supervises the convention. The accession will become effective on March 19.

Citicorp plan

Citicorp, the American banking group, is seeking permission from the Federal Reserve Board to underwrite financial instruments such as corporate bonds, commercial paper and municipal revenue bonds, areas at present closed to banks under the US Glass-Steagall Act, according to a Citicorp spokesman.

Steel pact hope

The EEC proposal for an agreement with the US on Community steel tube and pipe exports to the American market may be approved by Washington today, an EEC spokesman said in Brussels. The EEC proposal limits Community exports of steel tube and pipe to 7.6 per cent of the US market, almost half the 1984 level.

This advertisement is issued in compliance with the requirements of the Council of The Stock Exchange. It does not constitute an invitation to the public to subscribe for or purchase any shares.

Cullinet
Cullinet Software, Inc.

(Incorporated with limited liability under the laws of the State of Massachusetts, United States of America)

Authorized

80,000,000

Common Stock of U.S. \$10 par value

19,016,000

*including 1,509,604 shares held in Treasury.

Issued, and reserved for issue, as of 31st October 1984*

Cullinet Software, Inc., headquartered in Westwood, Massachusetts, is the world's leading independent software company. Cullinet develops and markets database management software for building systems and controlling data resources, as well as integrated applications software for manufacturing, finance, human resources and banking. The Company also provides integrated software for personal computers and mainframe software that links users of personal computers to corporate information. For the year ended 30th April, 1984, Cullinet had net revenue of U.S.\$120,036,000 and net income of U.S.\$16,494,000. For the six months ended 31st October, 1984, the Company had net revenue of U.S.\$83,949,000 and net income of U.S.\$11,478,000.

The Council of The Stock Exchange has admitted to the Official List all the 19,016,000 shares of Common Stock of Cullinet Software, Inc., including 1,509,604 shares held in Treasury.

Particulars relating to Cullinet are available in the *Statistical Service* and copies of such particulars, together with copies of the latest audited financial statements, may be obtained during usual business hours on any weekday (Saturdays and public holidays excepted) up to and including 21st January, 1985 from:

Goldman Sachs International Corp.,
162 Queen Victoria Street,
London EC4V 4DB

Morgan Grenfell & Co. Limited,
23 Great Winchester Street,
London EC2P 2AX

Phillips & Drew,
120 Moorgate,
London EC2M 6XP

31st December, 1984

David Smith

Portfolio

From your Portfolio card check your eight share price movements. Add them up to give you your overall total. Check this against the daily dividend figure published on this page. If it matches you have won outright or a share of the total daily prize money stated. If you are a winner follow the claim procedure on the back of your card. You must always have your card available when claiming.

No.	Company	Year price at start
1	BUILDING AND ROADS	
2	Brown Shipley	420
3	Brown Shipley	420
4	Brown Shipley	420
5	Brown Shipley	420
6	Brown Shipley	420
7	Brown Shipley	420
8	Brown Shipley	420
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35	Brown Shipley	420
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37	Brown Shipley	420
38	Brown Shipley	420
39	Brown Shipley	420
40	Brown Shipley	420

Weekly Dividend

Please make a note of your daily totals for the weekly dividend of £20,000 in Saturday's newspaper.

MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT	Yearly Total

BRITISH FUNDS

Stock Out-standings £ Stock Price Ch'ge on Friday week Gross Dividend p/£

SHORTS (Under Five Years)	Price	Ch'ge	Gross Div

FIVE TO FIFTEEN YEARS	Price	Ch'ge	Gross Div

OVER FIFTEEN YEARS	Price	Ch'ge	Gross Div

UNDATED	Price	Ch'ge	Gross Div

INDEX-LINKED	Price	Ch'ge	Gross Div

BREWERIES	Price	Ch'ge	Gross Div

BANKS DISCOUNT RATE	Price	Ch'ge	Gross Div

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BANKS DISCOUNT RATE	Price	Ch'ge	Gross Div

STOCK EXCHANGE PRICES

Capitalization and week's change

ACCOUNT DAYS: Begin, Today. Dealings End, Jan 11. Contango Day, Jan 14. Settlement Day, Jan 21.

Forward bargains are permitted on two previous days.

(Current market price multiplied by the number of shares in issue for the stock quoted)

Capitalization	Company	Price	Ch'ge	Gross Div

Capitalization	Company	Price	Ch'ge	Gross Div

Capitalization	Company	Price	Ch'ge	Gross Div

Capitalization	Company	Price	Ch'ge	Gross Div

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Capitalization	Company	Price	Ch'ge	Gross Div

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Capitalization	Company	Price	Ch'ge	Gross Div

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Capitalization	Company	Price	Ch'ge	Gross Div

New Year's Day

TV-am

Streep in the British TV premiere
The Deer Hunter (BBC 2, 9.10pm)

CHANNEL 4

2.30 Film: State Fair (1945) st Jeanne Crain, Dana Andrews and Dick Haymes. Rogers Hammerstein musical, set in the Iowa farm of the Frahs family, all of whom are preparing for the Iowa State Fair. Directed by Walter Lang.

4.20 World of Animation, Cartoons from round the world.

4.30 The Last Sailors. The second programme in the three-part series about sailing ships still earn a living for their features: craft from Chile, Brazil, Sri Lanka and Bangladesh.

5.30 Setbacks. The second programme for people who are out of work.

5.45 The Last Cathedral. Part of a three-programme documentary by Gillian Reynolds about the controversy surrounding the building of a massive new cathedral in New York's Harlem. It was designed as the biggest Protestant church in the world but work was uncompleted for years leading to the building being nicknamed "St John the Unfinished".

6.15 Before the Nickelodeon. Blanche Sweet, a star of silent screen, narrates the tribute to the pioneers of the movie industry who worked the medium at the turn of the century.

7.25 News summary and weather

7.30 The Optimist, starring Enn Reitel. In the evening's comedy the Optimist joins a state to a beautiful girl and trains a champion racehorse.

8.00 Brookside. Terry Brooks his plaster and tries to pick the pieces of his romance with Michelle.

8.30 It was 20 Years Ago Today. Three classic programmes from the mid-Sixties begin with *The Worker* starring Charlie Drake as one of his losers, tonight finding the of a bathing spot irresistible.

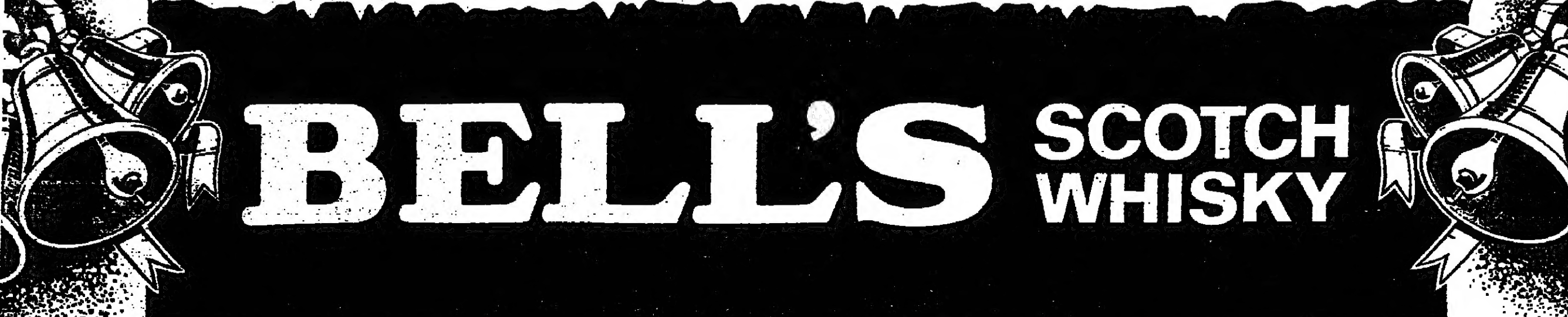
9.10 Beat City. Dan Farson, the fearlessly investigative reporter, makes for Liverpool's Cavern Club.

9.53 The Power Game. Boardroom drama series starring Patrick Wymark, retired but restless Sir John Wilder finds a challenge to taking when the merchant of which he is a director to over a construction company.

10.50 8-25 "Mitchella do fly in

the effect the Vietnam war has on three friends. The first showing on British television

used down.

[illegible]

Rescue launched to save unique Victorian images

David Nicholson-Lord
A fragile pictorial history of Victorian and Edwardian life in an English county is to figure in a painstaking rescue operation at the Essex Record Office, Chelmsford, where, over the next year, four workers will copy fading photographic images from old glass to modern film.

The historic Spalding collection of 6,000 glass plate negatives, depicting everyday scenes in Essex from the 1860s to the second world war, constitutes a unique archive. But it has been threatened with oblivion as the collodion, silver nitrate and gelatin used on the plates deteriorated.

The Manpower Services Commission has provided money to photograph and store the plates, and to produce modern photographs and an index for growing numbers of local history enthusiasts who use the record office.

The pictures were taken, mainly for postcards, by Frederick Spalding, who died in 1947, aged nearly 90, and his father, also Frederick. The elder Spalding had begun to take photographs on "wet collodion" plates in the 1860s, and in 1882 the Spaldings began using the newer dry gelatin process.

By the 1890s the younger Spalding had established a thriving business and was able to combine it with his passion for interest in local history, documenting the changes he witnessed in a long lifetime.



Edwardian Essex: Children playing around a water pump in Moulsham Street, Chelmsford, one of the scenes in the historic collections.



Then and now: Strolling couples in tranquil Willingale contrast strongly with the busy scene in Moulsham Street, Chelmsford, today. (contemporary photographs: John Vooe).

Letter from Cologne

British arts serve up a rich feast

Rarely has any German city enjoyed such a feast of British culture. Almost every day for the past three months a British play, film, exhibition, poetry reading, concert or lecture has been reminding the people of Cologne that the British are not only their friends but also their cultural equals.

The British Scene, as the publicity programme described the jamboree, has certainly been lively: readings by Tom Sharpe, Iris Murdoch, D.M. Thomas, performances of *Vanity Fair* and *Pericles* by cheeky Jowl, the Edinburgh Festival fringe prize-winners, *Orwell's England* from the National Theatre, Shakespeare songs, folk, rock, eighteenth-century English art, lectures, videotapes and much else.

But what the Germans in Whitehall will probably find most impressive about this outpouring is that the West Germans paid for 90 per cent of it.

And this is the pattern of the Council's activities throughout West Germany - we provide, you pay. On a budget of around £400,000 a year for the whole country, astonishingly little compared with the lavish funds available for the promotion of French and American culture, Britain manages to make an impact as great, if not greater, than either.

West Germany is perhaps one of the Council's showpiece countries. First, there is an extraordinary thirst for all things English, especially high culture. Germans speak very good English. They are among the most numerous visitors to Britain, and German culture itself is very open to outside influences.

Secondly, there already existed 25 years ago a network of prototype centres of British influence left over from the post-war occupation. These were part of the "Bridges" programme which attempted to impart British, and by implication democratic, values to the shattered country.

Space and buildings were there for the Council to take over, though it cut down the

number of centres, and has now reduced them to four: Munich, Hamburg, Cologne and West Berlin - the minimum needed to serve a country with a decentralized federal structure.

Lastly, the Council is able to devote a larger proportion of its time and money in Germany than in Third World countries to doing those things that make the headlines in the arts pages of the local press: promoting Shakespeare, avant-garde art, ballet, music and book exhibitions. For West Germans do not need, as Egypt or India does, extensive technical aid or English language programmes.

The trick, of course, is to find the way of sending over the Royal Shakespeare Company without having to foot a bill so large that there is no money for anything else. Using market forces is the answer: the Council liaises, promotes, responds to demand and acts as a cultural middleman, not as an impresario.

"We identify what Germans say is of interest to them," don't say: "We have a wonderful ball, here, who wants it?" Mr Robert Arbuthnot, head of the Council in West Germany, said. Nothing is done unless in collaboration with German partners.

The staff of 25 in Cologne (mostly Germans) respond to several thousand requests a year, often for material on the less-exalted aspects of life in Britain, such as the coal strike, unemployment, Northern Ireland. "We're not here to persuade people that Britain is wonderful, but to inform about Britain, wars and all," Mr Arbuthnot said. "If people ask about Northern Ireland, they get a series of press cuttings. But it's not our job to explain government policy."

On the whole, Britain is well regarded in West Germany, and there is an extraordinary interest in all the media in what goes on across the North Sea. The British Council has already had to sacrifice two regional offices in an earlier round of cuts. Germans would be aghast and offended if any more were enforced.

Michael Binyon

THE TIMES INFORMATION SERVICE

Sale guide

Now on: Aquascutum, 100 Regent Street, London, W1; Alders of Croydon, North End, Croydon; Laura Ashley, all branches; Ann's Reed, all branches; Bally, all branches; Boots, all branches; British Home Stores, all branches; Burberrys, 18-22 Haymarket, SW1 and 165 Regent Street, W1;

Debenhams, all branches; Dick's, Jones, 224 Regent Street, W1; D. H. Evans, Oxford Street, W1; Fawcett, New Bond Street, W1; Hornes, all branches; Habitat, all branches; H&M, 196 Tottenham Court Road, W1; Jaeger, all branches; John Lewis and branches; Liberty, Regent Street, W1; Littlewoods, all branches; Maples, Waring & Gillow, Tottenham Court Road, W1; Marks & Spencer, all branches; Mothercare all

branches; Raynes, all branches; Rejcek China Shops, all branches; Russell & Bromley, all branches; Selfridges, Oxford Street, W1; Simpsons, Piccadilly, W1; Tesco, Home's Wear Departments; Woolworth & Woolco, all branches. Starting today: C&A at Brent Cross.

Holiday travel

Pre-recorded travel information on Traveline-rail: 01-246 8030; road: 01-246 8031; sea: 01-246 8032; air: 01-246 8033.

Rail

Today: Saturday service with additional peak hour trains on commuter routes; no overnight trains. January 1: Saturday service on InterCity routes in England and Wales; Sunday service on other lines; no service in Scotland. January 2: Normal Wednesday service in England and Wales; only long distance trains in Scotland. Passengers are advised to check their train before travelling.

Roads

The AA reminds motorists that driving in fog can cause eye strain and extra fatigue, and advises drivers to make more frequent stops. Midlands and East Angles: A1: Contrailow N of Cotesworth at Stoke Rochford, Lincolnshire. A16: Temporary signals on Kings Lynn to Downham Market road at West Wince, Norfolk. A134: Temporary signals at Sudbury, Suffolk. North A49: Temporary lights on Scotland Road, Warrington, Cheshire. A63: Roadworks at Hemmingbrough, N Yorkshire. A69: Roadworks at Greenhead, Northumberland.

West: A470: Single line traffic with lights on Bulth Wells to Llysowen road at Erwood, Powys. M4: Only one lane westbound between junctions 17 and 18 (Cirencester to Bath). A469: Contrailow on M4 junction 24 to M5 junction 1 at Llantarnam, Gwent; also on Coldra to Usk road and between Raglan and Monmouth. Scotland: A94: Roadworks N and S of Forth, Kinrosshire. diversions. A93: Single line traffic with lights N of Blairgowrie, Perthshire. A978: City of Aberdeen; Waverley Place and Albert Street closed.

Buses and Underground Today: Most Underground lines operating until about 1am (with some mid-evening station closures) and expanded night bus network until 4am. Free travel on both buses and Underground after 11pm. Tomorrow: Sunday service with extra Underground trains for West End sales and football matches. For details call London Regional Transport on 01-222 1234.

Snow reports

SCOTLAND: Cairngorms Upper Wires Complete but snow, wet snow. Middle wire: Some complete, wet snow. Lower slopes: Very little wet snow. Vertical runs: 1,000ft Hill and main road clear. Snow level: 2,000ft. Glenelg: Very little wet snow. Vertical runs: All Hill and main road clear. Snow level: 2,000ft. Glenelg: Very little wet snow. Vertical runs: All Hill and main road clear. Snow level: 2,000ft.

Nature notes

On cold mornings, small birds are up searching for food before sunrise: blackbirds chase each other in the half-light, on patches of grass where there is a chance of finding worms. Larger birds like woodpeckers stay longer in their roosting trees. Many woodpeckers are now singing both in the morning and the late afternoon - a deep, regular cooing, with an air of indignation and astonishment on the high notes. Scap-duck are common on the coasts and are beginning to appear in ones and twos on inland waters: they are like tufted ducks without a crest, and with a peaty-grey back and a black band through the eye. Harvest mice sleep through the winter, though they often rest or take shelter in their untidy dens of sticks and moss and dead leaves.

Bond winners

Winning numbers in the weekly draw for Premium Bond prizes are: £100,000: 1ES 498117 (winner comes from London Borough of Regent, £25,000, £24 W 914200 (Berkshire); £25,000: 7LT 209219 (Lancashire).

The pound

Buyers: Australia \$ 1.25, Belgium Fr 1.25, Canada Cdn 1.25, Denmark Kr 1.25, Finland Mk 1.25, France Fr 1.25, Germany DM 1.25, Greece Dr 1.25, Hong Kong \$ 1.25, India Ru 1.25, Italy Lit 1.25, Japan Yen 1.25, Netherlands Gld 1.25, Norway Kr 1.25, Portugal Esc 1.25, South Africa Rd 1.25, Spain Ptas 1.25, Sweden Kr 1.25, Switzerland Fr 1.25, Taiwan NT 1.25, Yugoslavia Dnr 1.25. The pound closed up 1.25 on Friday at 1.25. The Dow Jones Industrial average closed up 1.50 on Friday at 1234.17.

Anniversaries

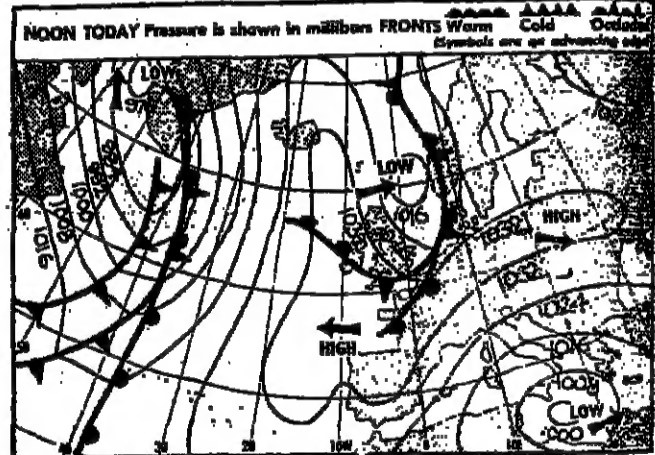
TODAY: Henri Matisse was born, Le Cateau, 1869. Deaths: John Flamsteed, first astronomer royal, Greenwich, 1719; Miguel de Cervantes, Spanish writer, Salamanca, 1596; Sir Malcolm Campbell, Riggate, Surrey, 1948. TOMORROW: Deaths: William Wycherley, dramatist, London, 1716; Heinrich Hertz, physicist, Bonn, 1894; Sir Edwin Landseer, painter, architect, London, 1944; Maurice Chevalier, Paris, 1928. The Daily Universal Register was founded by John Walter, 1785, changing its title to The Times on January 1, 1788.

Weather

Troughs of low pressure will move SE over England and Wales; a ridge of high pressure will build over NW.

London, SE, 10-12°C; Brighton, 10-12°C; Manchester, 10-12°C; Glasgow, 10-12°C; Cardiff, 10-12°C; Belfast, 10-12°C; Dublin, 10-12°C; Edinburgh, 10-12°C; Liverpool, 10-12°C; Newcastle, 10-12°C; Nottingham, 10-12°C; Oxford, 10-12°C; Plymouth, 10-12°C; Reading, 10-12°C; Southampton, 10-12°C; Swansea, 10-12°C; Wolverhampton, 10-12°C.

NOON TODAY: Pressure is shown in millibars. Fronts are shown by lines with triangles pointing in the direction of movement. Clouds are shown by wavy lines. Rain is shown by vertical lines. Snow is shown by dots. Wind direction is shown by the tail of the arrow. Wind speed is shown by the number on the arrow.



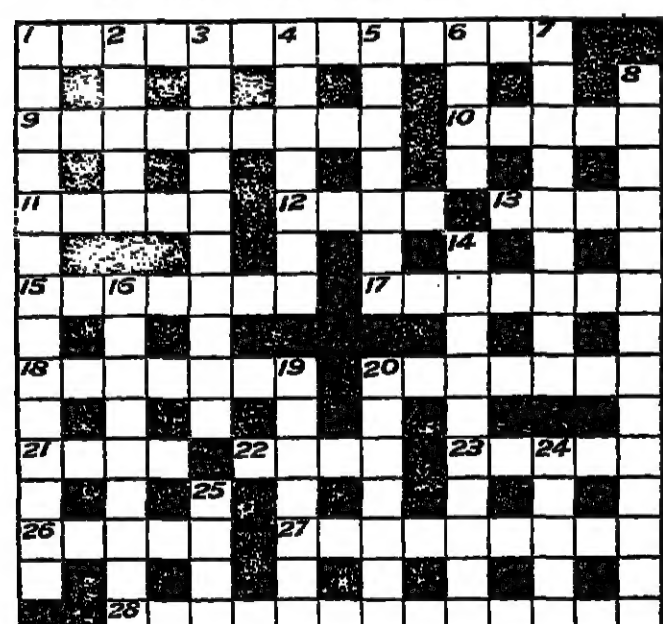
Around Britain			
Sea	Rain	Max	Min
in	in	in	in
EAST COAST			
Great Britain	0.6	4.0	3.0
Wales	0.6	4.0	3.0
SCOTLAND	0.6	4.0	3.0
IRELAND	0.6	4.0	3.0
Channel	0.6	4.0	3.0
English Channel	0.6	4.0	3.0
Irish Sea	0.6	4.0	3.0
North Sea	0.6	4.0	3.0
Atlantic	0.6	4.0	3.0

London			
Sea	Rain	Max	Min
in	in	in	in
Great Britain	0.6	4.0	3.0
Wales	0.6	4.0	3.0
SCOTLAND	0.6	4.0	3.0
IRELAND	0.6	4.0	3.0
Channel	0.6	4.0	3.0
English Channel	0.6	4.0	3.0
Irish Sea	0.6	4.0	3.0
North Sea	0.6	4.0	3.0
Atlantic	0.6	4.0	3.0

Highest and lowest			
Sea	Rain	Max	Min
in	in	in	in
Great Britain	0.6	4.0	3.0
Wales	0.6	4.0	3.0
SCOTLAND	0.6	4.0	3.0
IRELAND	0.6	4.0	3.0
Channel	0.6	4.0	3.0
English Channel	0.6	4.0	3.0
Irish Sea	0.6	4.0	3.0
North Sea	0.6	4.0	3.0
Atlantic	0.6	4.0	3.0

Abroad			
Sea	Rain	Max	Min
in	in	in	in
Great Britain	0.6	4.0	3.0
Wales	0.6	4.0	3.0
SCOTLAND	0.6	4.0	3.0
IRELAND	0.6	4.0	3.0
Channel	0.6	4.0	3.0
English Channel	0.6	4.0	3.0
Irish Sea	0.6	4.0	3.0
North Sea	0.6	4.0	3.0
Atlantic	0.6	4.0	3.0

The Times Crossword Puzzle No 16,623



- ACROSS
- Stormy Atlantic is one scourge of sailors (3-14-5).
 - Security device for Peter workin' at keys (6-3).
 - Coin America disposed of for well below par (5).
 - Opposition for example, always dividing political sides (5).
 - No end to Hibernian rainbow? (4).
 - Region of nameless battleground (4).
 - This is for tricky places, beginning laparotomy (7).
 - Palace walk that started with lane, capiti? (7).
 - Having written music, gesture of approval goes round gallery (7).
 - Dog star? (7).
 - Carriage left bearing vine (4).
 - Border set-back for euphonium (4).
 - Dicey-looking apprentice in charge (5).
 - One mile past - butterfly for one can go no further (5).
 - A French word for tin is not necessary (9).
 - In an apophthegm way be hardly felt a reform (4-9).
- DOWN
- Keeps in a highly dry place? Fancy? (7,2,5).
 - Having an irregular nap, in imperial style (5).

The Solution of Saturday's Prize Puzzle No 16,622 will appear next Saturday

Wednesday's puzzle will contain some favourite clues from the past. CONCISE CROSSWORD PAGE 10

TEACHER'S. A WELCOME AWAITING.

مدرسة من الامم

